HOME OF THE CUBS
BOYS SOCCER SCRIMMAGE **PAGE B1**

THE MADISON COURIER

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2024

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NEWSSTAND • \$1.25

Redevelopment Commission to consider \$4.6M bond

BY BOB DEMAREE

A resolution for a \$4.6 million bond and finance plan for city projects was introduced to Madison's Redevelopment Commission at its meeting Tuesday prior to a proposed vote next month.

The proposed bond, which will also require City Council approval, would finance public improvement projects to "improve the quality of place and housing

needs of the city to continue its growth and to attract and retain talent supporting the city's commercial and industrial institutions," according to the resolution.

The bond and finance plan is also a means for utilizing and leveraging the North Madison TIF allocation area that is scheduled to end in 2035.

"Optimizing our TIF district,

which has a limited life, has been a major planning initiative for quite some time," said Mayor Bob Courtney. "It is the primary tool we have for economic development. This capital plan will be extremely impactful for the community and is supported by the existing tax base on commercial property."

Among the projects that could receive support from the bond

are those that could be financed in part by READI 2.0 and Lilly Endowment grant funding. Three city projects recently were among 30 that Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (OurSIRDA) selected to forward for consideration for funding by the Indiana Economic Development Commission that is conducting an economic impact study for each project.

The Lilly Endowment project is titled Madison Revitalization which includes a boat ramp and steamboat landing facility, and other riverfront improvements. The READI 2.0 projects include a permanent amphitheater in Bicentennial Park and a housing project on the former Madison Coal Company property.

SEE BOND/PAGE A8

IU PRESIDENT VISITS PHAGAN



Indiana University President Pamela Whitten (left) was in Madison on Wednesday to meet with Madison artist Eric Phagan, a graduate of the Herron School of Art and Design. "Part of my job is traveling around and seeing all the communities," and to meet alumni who are making a difference. Phagan is a Madison artist who last year was a top 10 finalist for Indiana Teacher of the Year. After visiting Madison, Whitten then traveled to Vevay to visit with Tye Sullivan, executive director of the Community Foundation of Switzerland County. Accompanying Whitten were Michael Huber, IU Vice President, and Debbie Ford, Indiana University Southeast Chancellor.

DeVries named interim fire chief after Washer resignation

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison Fire Chief Kenneth Ray Washer has resigned his leadership position with the city, and his job with the city's street department, and Mayor Bob Courtney has recommended former fire chief Bill DeVries as Interim Fire Chief to

Board of Public Works and Safety.

According to a press release issued by the city, the recommendation follows the resignation of Washer, who served the city for 17 years, on Thursday after he had been suspended from both jobs.

SEE CHIEF/PAGE A6

HMI's Spiess has a story to tell

The first thing I asked Jessica Spiess, director of programs at Historic Madison Inc., is why should I, or more importantly, my readers, be excited about visiting the many historic museum properties managed by HMI? I mean, isn't it all just a bunch of spiral staircases, ornate old furniture, and very high ceilings? What makes it compelling?

She didn't even hesitate. "It's the stories," said Jess. "The buildings are just the receptacles for the amazing stories behind each property. And I think the stories are relevant for today. It's the same things we all care about. Our hopes for the future. Our sense of place and family. And ultimately, or struggle to hold onto the things that are important to us. Every one of our properties holds a story like that.

"You have to think about



Jessica Spiess, director of programs at Historic Madison Inc., which is launching a concert series at Shrewsbury-Windle House starting on Sunday, Aug. 25, with award-winning cellist Dr. Cecilia Huerta-Lauf, of Louisville.

what was going on in the minds of the people who built these houses in the early to mid-1800s, when Madison was growing and the future seemed so bright and unlimited. It was an act of faith and statement of hope. People were putting down roots and saying to the world, 'This is where I will build my life and grow my

family. They were doctors and judges and land speculators and merchants. Some succeeded and some failed. It's all part of the rich tapestry of life and love and struggle and triumph. Our old homes still hold those echoes, if you know how to interpret it and retell it."

A good example of the vibrant life is the upcoming concert series happening at The Shrewsbury-Windle House, starting Aug. 25. "These big homes were focal points of the Madison social scene," explains Jess. "Musical performances were frequent and well attended, by all the finest citizens of the community. We feel it's important to carry on that legacy, and use these historic homes in the manner they were originally intended, not as static museums where nothing happens."

"The first concert is an award-winning cellist out of Louisville named Dr. Cecilia Huerta-Lauf. It's the perfect kind of music to stage and experience in an intimate setting like the drawing room in the Shrewsbury house.

SEE SPIESS/PAGE A8

Clifty Drive roadwork to shift to eastbound side Monday

A \$12.3 million project to do storm sewer work and install median and sidewalks on Madison's hilltop will shift to the eastbound side of Clifty Drive (State Road 62) on Monday, weather permitting.

Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) contractor Dave O'Mara Contractors began work on Clifty Drive between Wilson Avenue and Michigan Road in early April to complete

storm sewer, median and signal upgrades and sidewalk installation. The storm sewer work, median and sidewalk installation on the westbound side of Clifty Drive is now complete and work is shifting to the eastbound side beginning on or after Monday, Aug. 19.

Work will begin on the west end of Clifty Drive — from Wilson Avenue to Michigan Road — and move east. Milling and paving operations will follow, and additional updates will be provided as work progresses.

INDOT reminds drivers to slow down, use extra caution and avoid distractions when traveling near work zones. All work is weather-dependent and schedules are subject to change.

Elsewhere, INDOT maintenance crews began chip seal work on U.S. 421 in Jefferson and Ripley Counties on Wednesday.

Crews will be active between State Road 62 in Jefferson County and South Old Michigan Road in Ripley County until completion of the project, weather permitting, and motorists should expect lane closures and flagging while work is in progress.

Chip seal work typically lasts three to four days per location depending upon weather. During operations, existing pavement is coated with liquid asphalt, which seals cracks and provides waterproof protection. Once the seal coat is complete, loose aggregate is applied and swept from the road. After a curing period, crews will return to fog seal the new driving surface and apply pavement markings.

Chip seal, a cost-effective pavement preservation technique that is utilized across the state of Indiana, extends the service life of the roadway and

SEE DRIVE/PAGE A6

OBITUARY

Ronnie Ray Dixon

Ronnie Ray Dixon, age 66, of Austin, IN, entered this life on May 2, 1958, in Madison, IN. He was the loving son of Harold N. and Edith R. Walters Dixon. Ronnie died on Monday, August 12, 2024, at his home in Austin, IN.

Ronnie will be missed by his loving twin daughters, Rebecca Jean Roudebush and her husband, Beau of Troy, OH, Jennifer Rae Cooper and her husband, Dallas of Deputy, IN; his mother, Edith Rae Walters Dixon of Madison, IN; his step daughter, Mary Caroline Newman Cole and her husband, Michael and their family of Madison, IN; his grandchildren, Lan Walker Roudebush, Desmond James Roudebush, Dallas Alexander Cooper, and Kiara Rae Cooper; his brother, Rick Dixon and his wife, Vivian of Woodsville, New Hampshire; his nieces, and his nephews, Keishia, Andrew, Chenoa, and Oliver; his aunts, and his uncles, Patricia Diane Dixon of Lexington, IN, Etta and Calvin Royce of North Vernon, IN, Vonna and Lewis Haines of North Vernon, IN, Carolyn Altepeter of

Seymour, IN, Evelyn and Terry Rose of East Enterprise, IN, Billie Jean Dixon of Milton, KY; numerous cousins and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harold N. Dixon; his step daughter, Crystal Dawn Newman, and his wife, Debra Angel Sawyer Dixon, died August 22, 2012.

Funeral services will be conducted Monday, August 19, 2024, at 11 a.m., by Bro. Jimmy Butters at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow at a later date in the Grandview Memorial Gardens, 9306 North US 421 near Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Sunday from 4 — 7 p.m. and Monday from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ronnie Dixon Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

SEE OBITUARIES/PAGE A3

DEATH NOTICES

Madah Dee Scott Ellis, 70, of Milton, KY, died Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, at Norton Brownsboro Hospital in Louisville. Memorial service was Sunday, Aug. 11, at the home of Eric and Jodie Ellis in Milton. Arrangements by Ransdell Funeral Home, Bedford, KY, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Gary W. Guarino, 78, of Madison, IN, died Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024, at Norton King's Daughters' Hospital in Madison. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Lytle Welty Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Madison, www.lytlewelty.com.

Dennis Edward Howard Sr., 67, of Erlanger, KY, died Aug. 7, 2024, in Erlanger. Funeral services were Saturday, Aug. 10, at English Christian Church in Carrollton, KY, with burial in the Warsaw Cemetery in Warsaw, KY. Arrangements by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral

Home in Carrollton, www.tandyeklerileyfuneralhome.com.

Kala Sue Judy, 35, of Vevay, IN, died Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024, at Jewish Hospital in Louisville. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Clifford Dale Righthouse, 77, of Lexington, IN, died Monday, Aug. 12, 2024, at Jewish Hospital in Louisville. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Lytle Welty Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Madison, www.lytlewelty.com.

Jayne Smith, 56, of Bedford, KY, died Sunday, Aug. 11, at the Norton Women and Children's Hospital in Louisville. Funeral service was Thursday, Aug. 15, at Ransdell Funeral Home in Campbellsburg, KY, www.ransdellfuneral.com.



THE MADISON COURIER

(USPS 325000)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2024

Published 2 days each week on Tuesday and Friday.

Periodical postage paid at Madison, IN and additional mailing offices.

Please send address changes to

The Madison Courier, 310 West St., Madison, IN 47250

812-265-3641

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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\$20 for three months • \$8 for one month

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

2:30 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issue

Noon Monday for Thursday issue

Noon Thursday for Saturday issue

VOL. 223 • ISSUE NO. 67

Henry man dies in Carroll crash on I-71

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Kentucky State Police are investigating a single car crash on Interstate 71 in Carroll County that claimed the life of a Henry County man early Tuesday morning.

A preliminary investigation indicates that William "Chico" Davis,

20, of Pleasureville, Kentucky, was traveling south on Interstate 71 near the 44 mile marker when for unknown reasons he lost control of his 2005 Honda passenger car, the vehicle left the roadway and struck a guardrail.

The crash was reported at approximately 12:04 a.m. Tues-

day, Aug. 13, when Kentucky State Police Post 5 in Campbellsburg received a call from the Carroll County Central Dispatch and troopers responded to the scene.

Davis was pronounced dead at the scene by the Carroll County Coroner. The investigation is ongoing by KSP Post 5.

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER

LODGINGS

August 13, 2024

Nicole Lynn Morgan, 35, Madison, for Maintaining a Common Nuisance, a Level 6 felony; Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated and Possession of Marijuana, both Class A misdemeanors; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond \$500 cash.

Christian Bailey Tiffany, 21, Hanover, to serve one day jail on a court-ordered sentencing. No bond.

August 14, 2024

Paige Alisha Groves, 34, no address, for Contempt of Court. No bond.

Sherradon Paige Stewart, 21, Madison, for Neglect of a Dependent and Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated, both Level 6 felonies. No bond.

Tammy Sue Weston, 49, Scottsburg, Indiana, to serve 181 days jail on a court-ordered sentencing. No bond.

Anna Marie Morris, 29, Hanover, for Unlawful Possession or Use of a Legend Drug, Obstruction of Justice and Possession of Marijuana. No bond.

JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURT

SENTENCINGS

August 12, 2024

Daniel McClellan, 39, Madison, to amended charges of Domestic Battery-Committed in Presence of a Child Less Than 16 Years Old and Domestic Battery-Moderate Bodily Injury, both Level 6 felonies. Sentenced to 540 days at Indiana

Department of Correction on each count, consecutive, with credit for 78 Days served and 452 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$349 in fees and court costs. Defendant also admits to probation violation on prior Criminal Recklessness

Josh Steven White II, 28, Hanover, to amended charges of Dealing in Marijuana-30 grams to 10 pounds, a Level 6 felony; and Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated-Controlled Substance or Metabolite, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days at Indiana

Department of Correction on the felony consecutive to 60 days jail on the misdemeanor with credit for 2 days served and 423 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$789.50 in fees and court

costs and driver's license suspended for 180 days with Specialized Driving Privileges granted.

conviction with outstanding sentence to run consecutive.

Allen Lee Ritchie Jr., 21, North Vernon, Indiana, to an amended charge of Sexual Battery, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 2 years and 6 months at Indiana Department of Correction with credit for 308 days jail served, with one year remaining to serve at Jefferson County Jail and one year and six months suspended to supervised probation plus \$1,089 in fees, court costs and sexual assault victims assistance. No Contact Order modified as part of sentencing.

Emmylou Hoffmire, 35, Dupont, Indiana, for Unlawful Possession of Legend Drug, a Level 6 Felony with judgment of conviction as a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced 178 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

Melina Marroquin, 35, Madison, to an amended charge of Operating a Vehicle Without a License, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to zero time and \$189.50 in court costs.

Josh Steven White II, 28, Hanover, to amended charges of Dealing in Marijuana-30 grams to 10 pounds, a Level 6 felony; and Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated-Controlled Substance or Metabolite, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days at Indiana

Department of Correction on the felony consecutive to 60 days jail on the misdemeanor with credit for 2 days served and 423 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$789.50 in fees and court costs and driver's license suspended for 180 days with Specialized Driving Privileges granted.

August 13, 2024

Michael Jacob Lehto, 56, North Vernon, Indiana, for Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 2 days served and 178 days suspended to non-reporting probation plus \$689 in fees and court costs.

Karleen Perry LLC to Dalton Berry, 5606 North Rector Road, Madison.

Amanda Richey to Bradley Franklin and Bridgette Bower, 5230 West Quail Run Lane, Madison.

Vincent Lee Wiefling, 33, Madison, for Theft, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 545 days at Indiana Department of Correction with credit for 2 days served, 32 days to be served on 8 weekends and 511 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$589 in fees and court costs.

Jose Gutierrez Marquez, 36, Madison, for Operating a Vehicle Without a Valid License, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to zero days jail plus \$189.50 court costs.

Justyn Paul Smallwood, 25, Madison, to amended charges of Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony; and Criminal Trespass, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days at Indiana Department of Correction on the felony, fully executed with credit for 4 days served, concurrent to 180 days jail on the misdemeanor with both sentences consecutive to 550 days suspended sentence for prior conviction for felony battery, plus \$789 in fees and court costs.

Tammara Gail Coghill, Franklin, Indiana, 57, Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 365 days at Indiana Department of Correction with credit for 12 days served and 353 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$989 in fees and court costs.

August 14, 2024

Jennifer L. Age to Jeffery A. Montgomery, two parcels totaling approximately 113 acres at 11867 Blake Road, Deputy.

Ralph Higgins (deceased), Tracie R. Higgins, Kenneth Higgins, Christopher Higgins and Deborah Leathermon to Tracie R. Higgins, 340 Ross Street, Madison.

Madison Plaza Group LLC and Board of Public Works to City of Madison, transfer of approximately one acre at Susie Lane, Madison.

Edwin B. Hatton to Edwin B. Hatton and Alinza D. Hatton, 686 South 1000 West, Lexington.

August 13, 2024

Anthony Ardizzone to Ardizzone Farms Indiana LLC, parts of seven parcels totaling approximately 51.5 acres at 10641 North Hicks Ridge Road, Canaan.

Robert Perkins and Karen A. Perkins to Stefanie L. Conner, 3571 West Deputy Pike Road, Madison.

Craig-Madison Properties LLC to M&G Real Estate LLC, parts of six parcels at 248, 258 and 258+ Clifty Drive and 2000+ Michigan Road, Madison (Toyota of Madison).

Lyon Rentals LLC, Kyle Lyon and Cheryl L. Lyon to Trevor S. Humphrey, Hannah Y. Humphrey and Tamara D. Stephen, approximately 10 acres at 3901 East 925 North, Madison.

Anthony L. Hammock and Bernard Johnson to Kyle Smith and Stephanie Smith, 1016+ East First Street, Madison.

Rail Excursion Management LLC to Madison Railroad and City of Madison Port Authority, approximately 9.9 acres at 2000 300 North, Madison.

August 14, 2024

Jennifer L. Age to Jeffery A. Montgomery, two parcels totaling approximately 113 acres at 11867 Blake Road, Deputy.

Ralph Higgins (deceased), Tracie R. Higgins, Kenneth Higgins, Christopher Higgins and Deborah Leathermon to Tracie R. Higgins, 340 Ross Street, Madison.

Madison Plaza Group LLC and Board of Public Works to City of Madison, transfer of approximately one acre at Susie Lane, Madison.

August 14, 2024

A real estate transfer published on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, listed an incorrect name for one of the recipients of the property.

The corrected transfer should read: Diana F. Luckett to Diana F. Luckett and Gary A. Luckett, 5345 South State Road 62, Lexington.

Correction

A real estate transfer published on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, listed an incorrect name for one of the recipients of the property.

The corrected transfer should read: Diana F. Luckett to Diana F. Luckett and Gary A. Luckett, 5345 South State Road 62, Lexington.

Public meeting to reveal results of Madison Main Street survey

BY THE COURIER STAFF

A public meeting to share results of a recent downtown market survey — and engage the public in identifying gaps and opportunities to strengthen the downtown district — will be held Thursday, Aug. 22 at the Red Bicycle Hall. "This will be a chance to hear

the survey results and to explore observations and recommendations from experienced downtown consultants familiar with the needs of rural communities. We encourage everyone to attend."

The meeting will be led by Main Street America Program Officer for Revitalization Services Jacqueline Swihart and Indiana Main Street Senior Program Manager Abigail Huff.

The meeting is part of a two-day workshop to analyze market-driven strategies for Madison's historic district. The workshop is a service provided by the

Indiana Main Street Program through the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA).

Andrea Kern, director of Strategic Initiatives, said, "Our goal is to help Main Street communities refine marketing strategies to guide their work over the next three to five years."

Doors will open at 6 p.m. with the meeting starting at 6:30 at Red Bicycle Hall, 125 E. Main Street. A cash bar and snacks will be available. Please RSVP using the following link: <https://tickets.madixevents.com/e/mmsp-publicmeeting-8-22-24>

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 18
Cheryl Hooton

OBITUARIES

Jane Caudill

Jane Caudill, 85, of Madison, and formerly of Letcher County, KY, died on Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024, at 4 a.m. at the Norton King's Daughters' Hospital in Madison, with her loving family at her side. Jane entered this life on Nov. 16, 1938, in Carbon Glow, KY. She was the loving daughter of the late Byron and Ettie Caudill Caudill. She was raised in Dotty Creek in Jeremiah, KY, where she attended school. She was united in marriage on November 24, 2001, at the Dixon Memorial Church in Letcher County to Van Blair. They enjoyed 10 years of marriage together until his death. She worked for many years as a nanny helping to raise Lisa Adams and Dr. Wade Baker. She also worked for Mountain Comp Clinic as a housekeeper for several years. She was an avid reader and a fan of UK basketball. She was a longtime member of the Old Regular Baptist Church in Letcher County. She moved to Madison four years ago to be near her sister and her family who lovingly cared for her. She attended the First Baptist Church in downtown Madison.

Jane died on Sunday, August 11, 2024, at 4 a.m. at the Norton King's Daughters' Hospital in Madison, IN, with her loving family at her side.

Jane will be missed by her loving sisters, Imogene Caudill York of Madison, Adeline Hampton of Whitesburg, KY; her brother, Carl "Dickie" Caudill and his wife, Testa of Batesville, IN; her sister in laws, Margaret Ann Caudill of Jeremiah, KY, Janet Caudill of Jeremiah, KY, Geraldine Caudill of Jeremiah, KY, and



Ila Cloud; the children she was a nanny to, Lisa Adams and Dr. Wade Baker; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, Byron Caudill; her mother, Ettie Caudill; her brothers, Burnett Caudill, Harold Caudill, Bert Charles Caudill, Bruce Caudill, Earl Caudill, and Haskell Caudill; her sisters Beatrice Caudill, and Elaine Caudill.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, Aug. 16, 2024, at 1 p.m., by Pastor Aaron Profitt at the Letcher Funeral Home, 102 Main St., Whitesburg, KY.

Interment will follow in the Hampton Cemetery in Letcher County, KY.

Friends and family may visit on Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Letcher Funeral Home in Whitesburg.

Memorial contributions may be made to Norton King's Daughters' Hospital Hospice. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover or at the Letcher Funeral Home in Whitesburg, KY.

Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

The family wishes to acknowledge and thank the staff, the nurses, the chaplain, and the doctors with the Norton King's Daughters' Hospital Hospice for their excellent care.

Kenneth Ray Watson

Kenneth Ray Watson, age 73, of Vevay, IN, entered this life on September 21, 1950, in Madison, IN. He was the son of the late Kenneth J. and Rhea M. (Owen) Watson. Kenneth passed away at 8:40 a.m., Friday, August 9, 2024, at the Swiss Villa Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Vevay, IN.

Kenneth is survived by his wife, Connie S. (Dowdy) Watson of Vevay, IN; his daughter, Angela R. Callis and her husband, Damon of Vevay, IN; his son, Mark A. Griffin of Florence, KY; his grandchildren, Kennedy Gage Callis and his fiancée, Savannah Jones of Madison, IN, and Avery

E. Griffin of Union, KY; his sister, Sue Dopsovic of Wyomissing, PA; his nephews, Joseph Dopsovic and his fiancée, Amanda Polivitus of Philadelphia, PA, and Josh Dopsovic and his wife, Cait of Exeter, PA. He was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth J. and Rhea M. (Owen) Watson; and his brother-in-law, Tom Dopsovic.

Kenneth's wishes were to be cremated with no services being held at this time.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Charity of the Donor's Choice. Cards are available at the funeral home or online at www.haskell-morrison.com.

BOB & DEANIE TOPPE KNIFE AUCTION

SUNDAY AUGUST 18TH 12:00PM

HANOVER AUCTION CENTER

599 WEST LAGRANGE ROAD HANOVER, INDIANA

2ND OF 5 BOB & DEANIE TOPPE ESTATE AUCTIONS

I have been commissioned by the Estate of Bob & Deanie Toppe to sell their Knife collection of 420+ knives; Over 350 are Case XX; also Remington; Boker; Robeson; Cattaraugus; Hibbard Spencer & Bartlett; Many others.

Stag; Red Bone Green Bone; Odd pieces such as Nazi dagger; Case XX letter opener; Case XX Icing knife; Russell Green River Works butcher knife; John Primble Sugar Beet knife; U.S. Military c1880 trencher; You name it, there's a good chance it's here. Knives will be sold in order from a cataloged list provided at the auction or you may download it from auctionzip.com.

Add to your collection or start one. Check out all the pics on auctionzip.com

Auctioneer#12484. BE THERE!!!

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Paul Douglas Richter

Paul Douglas Richter, age 67, of Madison, IN, entered this life on September 1, 1956, in Madison, IN. He was the loving son of the late Paul Edward and Calla Morris Richter. He was raised in Madison and graduated in 1974 from Madison Consolidated High School. He also attended ITT in Indianapolis for trade school training.

He was united in marriage to Maggie Gaylord and this union was blessed with a son Christopher Paul. Early in life he owned and operated City Cab in Madison for over 10 years. He also had worked at the U.S. Shoe Corporation and at Meese, Inc. in production. He last worked for Hall's Laundry working in the delivery department for four years. He was a member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witnesses and the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No.

9 of the American Legion. He enjoyed membership in the Jefferson County Goodwill Conservation Club where he called Bingo. He was an avid Bengal's Football fan and a great supporter of President Donald Trump. He had fought a courageous battle with cancer. Paul died on Sunday, August 11, 2024, at 8:59 p.m. at the Norton King's Daughters' Hospital in Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Saturday from 1 — 3 p.m. at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Paul Douglas Richter Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover.

Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.



husband, Brandon, and Michael Garvey and his wife, Jamie; several other nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, cousins, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, Paul Edward Richter; his mother, Calla Morris Richter; his son, Christopher Paul Richter; his half brothers, William Richter and Patrick Baxter; and his half sisters, Pauline Richter Wheeler, Jeanette Richter Dean, Helen Irene Richter Moye, and Irene Richetts.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, August 17, 2024, at 3 p.m., by Pastor Frank McGee at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow at a later date in the Fairmount Cemetery in Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Saturday from 1 — 3 p.m. at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, IN.

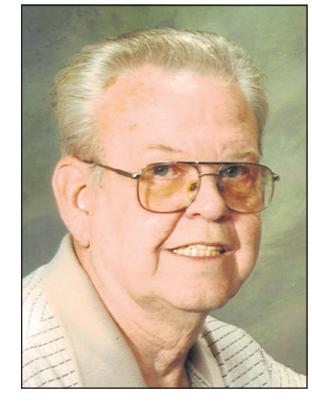
Memorial contributions may be made to the Paul Douglas Richter Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover.

Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

John G. Edwards

John G. Edwards, age 86, of Madison, IN, and the son of the late Paul G. and Emma Berth (Morgasson) Edwards, was born on August 17, 1937, in Jefferson County, IN. On April 2, 1960, he was united in marriage to Dorothy Elizabeth (Massie) Edwards in Madison, IN, and they enjoyed 54 wonderful years together. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and was honorably discharged on June 20, 1963. From 1962-1999, he worked at Envirex/Rexnord until his retirement as a supervisor. In his spare time, he enjoyed going to the gambling boat, spending time bowling, including when he bowled a score of 300, watching Nascar and football. Mr. Edwards passed away on Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at the Thornton Terrace Health Campus in Hanover, IN.

His life will be cherished by his daughters: Tina Scott and her husband, Allen of Madison, and Mary Bennett and her husband, Jerry of Madison; his sister, Sally Kidd of Madison; his brothers: George Edwards and his wife, Rita, David Edwards



and his wife, Margaret, Jack Edwards, all of Madison; his son-in-law, Josh White; nine grandchildren; 25 great grandchildren; and three great great grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughters: Holly White, and Carolyn Simpson, and his wife, Dorothy Elizabeth Edwards who passed away on June 18, 2014; three sisters: Linda Chatham, Evelyn Harmon, and Carolyn Lemmon.

Cremation was chosen and A Celebration of Life will be announced at a later date.

Lytle Welty Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Vail Chapel was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made at www.lytowelty.com.

William H. 'Bill' Bear

William H. "Bill" Bear, age 94, of Madison, IN, entered this life on July 22, 1930, in Madison, IN. He was the loving son of the late Oscar Clinton and Mary Adaline Cox Bear.

He was preceded in death by his father, Oscar Clinton Bear; his mother, Mary Adaline Cox Bear; his wife of 55 years, Mary Jane Sauley Bear, died February 11, 2007, his son, Jeffrey Samuel Bear; his brother, Oscar Charles "OB" Bear; his sisters, Louise Bragg McGovern, and Mary Ann Hale.

Dr. Bear will be missed by his children, Danna Ferguson and her husband, Larry of Madison, IN, David Bear and his wife, Ada of Madison, IN, Michael W. Bear and his wife, Joan of Madison, IN, Grant M. Bear and his wife, Kim Hargesheimer of Milton, KY, Chris A. Bear and his wife, Sherri of Laurel, MT; his grandchildren, Jeffrey Ferguson (Annlena), Julie Hart (Ross), Jaman Geyman (Joseph), Mary Mehl (Alex), Sam Bear (Celeste), Abraham Bear (Kasie), Emily Zachar (Ben), Joseph Bear, Katherine Stapleton (Brett), Alicia Mazzone (Jake), Joshua Bear, Libbe Bear (Ryan), Lindsey Bear (Cullen); 23-great grandchildren; his sister-in-law, Louise Pulliam Bear of Madison, IN; several nieces, nephews, and great nieces, nephews.

Friends may visit Tuesday from 4 — 7 p.m. and Wednesday from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the donor's charity of choice. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover.

Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Shane Raye Davis

Shane Raye Davis, 59 of Columbus, IN, formerly of Madison, IN entered into this life on July 28, 1965, in Madison, IN. He was the loving son of Arthur Davis and the late Bettye Ann Davis. Shane died unexpectedly on August 13, at Columbus Regional Hospital in Columbus, IN.

Shane will be missed by his father, Arthur Davis and his wife Brenda of Madison, IN; his brother Brent Davis and his wife Robin of Madison, IN; his brother Ashley Davis and his wife Shannon of Columbus, IN; his sister Brooke Demaio and her husband Mike of Columbus, IN; his sister Blaine Good and her husband Brian of Columbus, IN; his

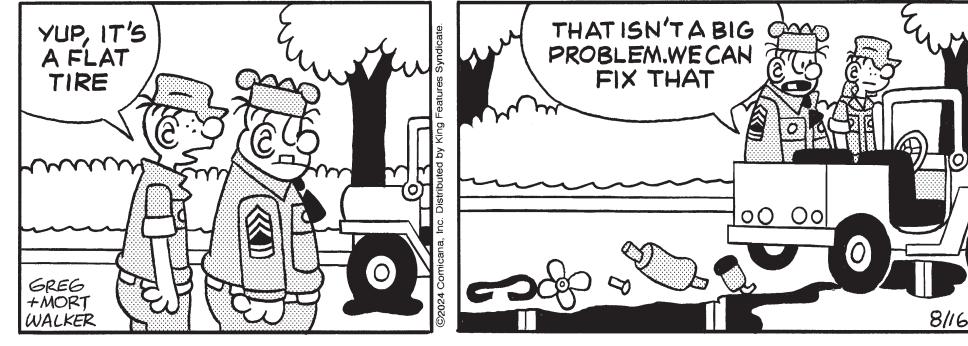
nephews and nieces Andrew, Brady, RJ, Rayne, Abby, Ethan, Tristan, Jonathan, Kendall, Atticus, Mila, and many other relatives. Shane was preceded in death by his mother, Bettye Ann Davis, who died July 13, 2016.

There will be no funeral ceremony at this time but a celebration of life will be planned at a later date.

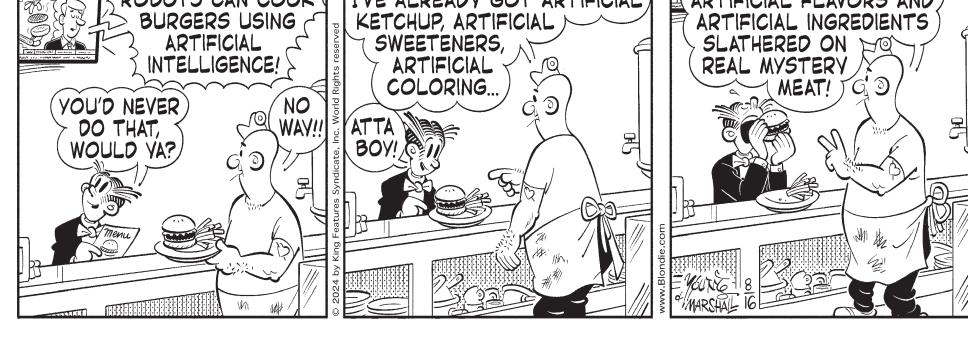
Memorial contributions can be made to: Shane Davis Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Shane Raye Davis

BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



FAMILY CIRCUS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Who's talkin' to YOU?"



"MY DAD SAYS YOU HAVE FROZEN ASSETS. DO YOU WANT TO SIT ON A HEATING PAD?"

HI & LOIS



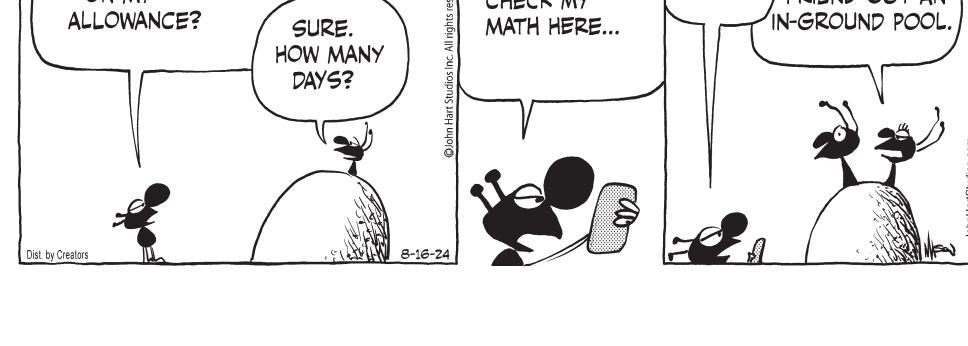
BABY BLUES



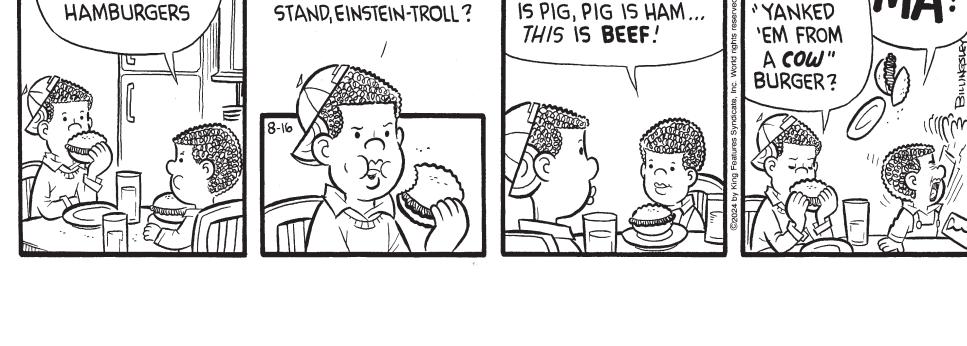
THERE WERE TEN CORRECT ANSWERS, AND BILLIONS OF WRONG ONES.



BC



CURTIS



"MA!"

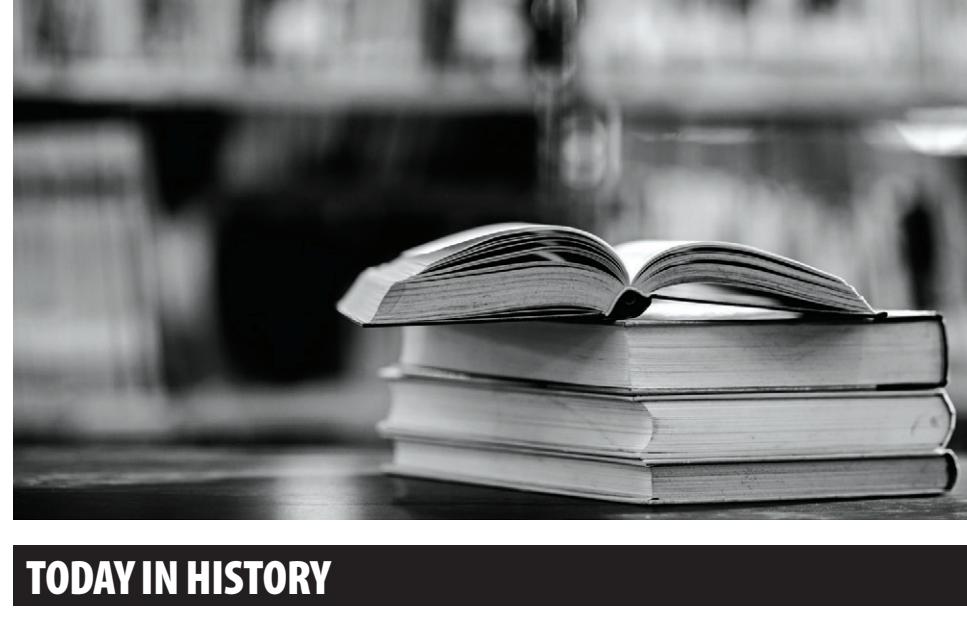
WIZARD OF ID



ZITS



CRABGRASS



GARFIELD



TODAY IN HISTORY

Today in history:

On Aug. 16, 1977, Elvis Presley died at his Graceland estate in Memphis, Tennessee at the age of 42; forty-one years later, in 2018, singer Aretha Franklin, known as the "Queen of Soul," died in Detroit at the age of 76.

Also on this date:

In 1777, American forces won the Battle of Bennington in what was considered a turning point of the Revolutionary War.

In 1812, Detroit fell to British and Native American forces in the War of 1812.

In 1861, President Abraham Lincoln issued Proclamation 86, which prohibited the states of the Union from engaging in commercial trade with states that were in rebellion — i.e., the Confederacy.

In 1896, gold was discovered in Canada's Yukon Territory, sparking the "Klondike Fever" that would draw tens of thousands to the region in search of fortune.

In 1948, baseball legend

Babe Ruth died in New York at age 53.

In 1954, the first issue of "Sports Illustrated" was released.

In 1962, the Beatles fired their original drummer, Pete Best, replacing him with Ringo Starr.

In 1978, James Earl Ray, convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., told a Capitol Hill hearing he did not commit the crime, saying he'd been set up by a mysterious man called "Raoul."

In 1987, people worldwide began a two-day celebration of the "Harmonic Convergence," which heralded what believers called the start of a new, purer age of humankind.

In 2014, Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon declared a state of emergency and imposed a curfew in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson, where police and protesters repeatedly clashed in the week since a Black 18-year-old, Michael Brown, was shot to death by a white police officer.

In 2020, lightning sparked the August Complex wildfire in California. More than 1,600 square miles—greater than the size of Rhode Island—would burn over the following three months.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Julie Newmar is 91. Film director Bruce Beresford is 84. Actor Bob Balaban is 79. Ballerina Suzanne Farrell is 79. Actor Lesley Ann Warren is 78. Actor Reginald VelJohnson is 72. Singer/author/TV personality Kathie Lee Gifford is 71. Singer J.T. Taylor (Kool and the Gang) is 71. Movie director James Cameron is 70. Singer/actor Madonna is 66. Actor Angela Bassett is 66. Actor Timothy Hutton is 64. Actor Steve Carell is 62. Country musician Emily Strayer (The Chicks) is 52.

Actor/filmmaker Taika Waititi is 49. Singer Vanessa Carlton is 44. Country singer Dan Smyers (Dan & Shay) is 37.

Actor Rumer Willis is 36. U.S. Olympic gold medal swimmer Caeleb Dressel is 28. Tennis player Jannik Sinner is 23.

FORT KNOX

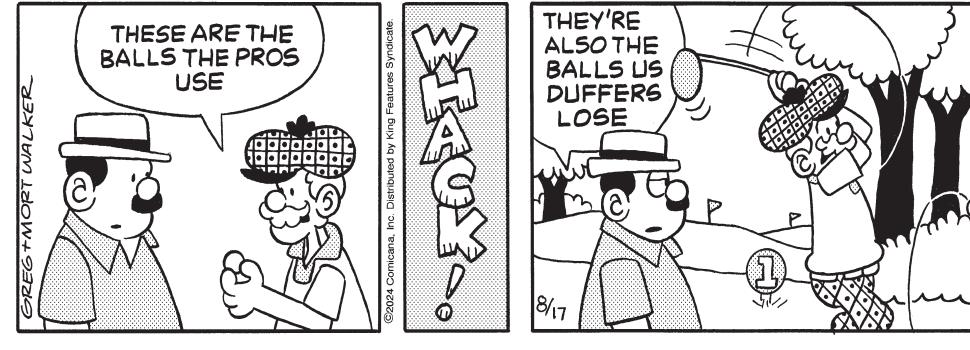


PICKLES

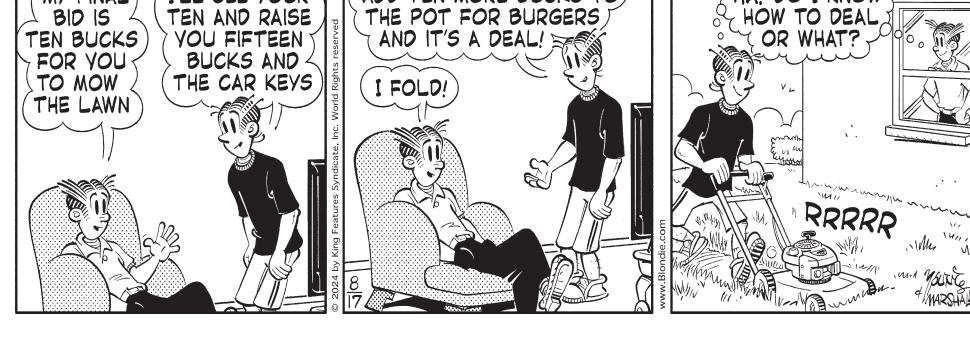


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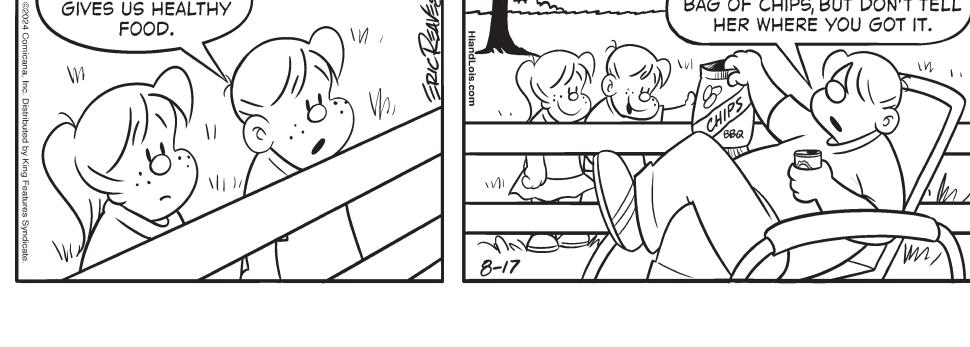
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE

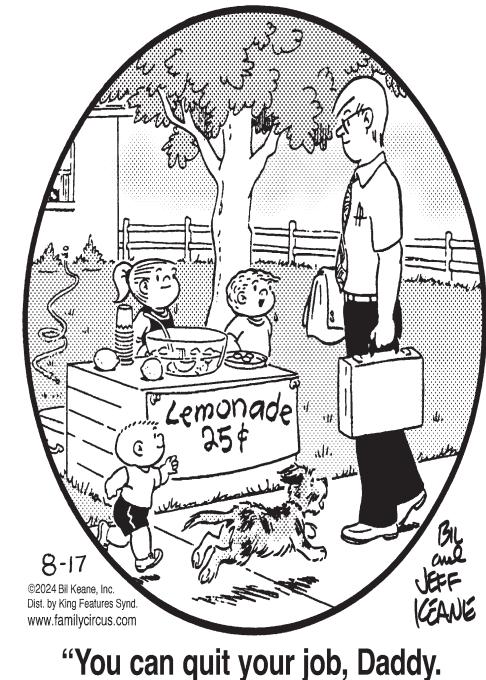


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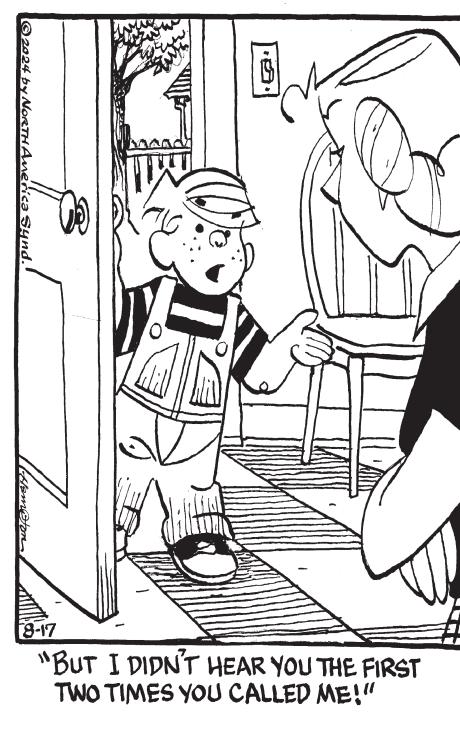
FAMILY CIRCUS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



By Bil Keane

DENNIS THE MENACE



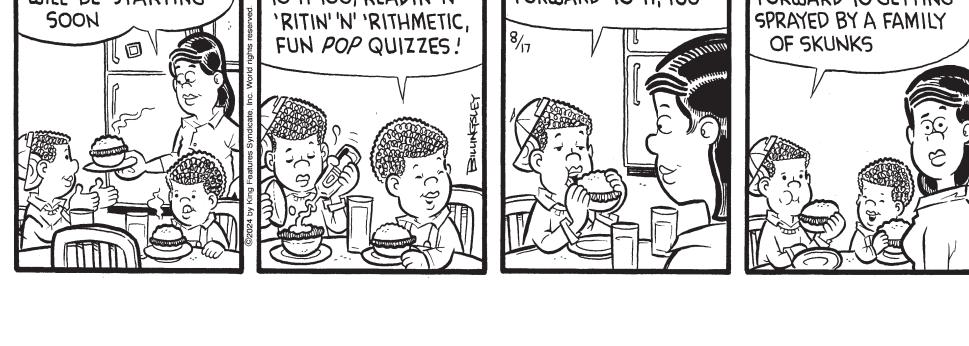
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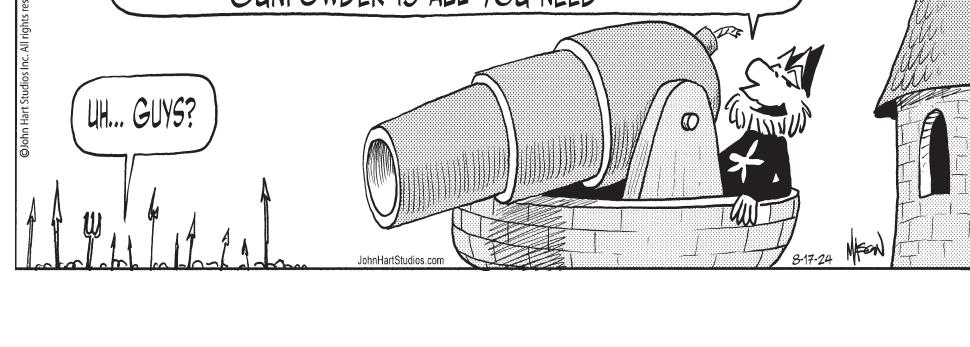
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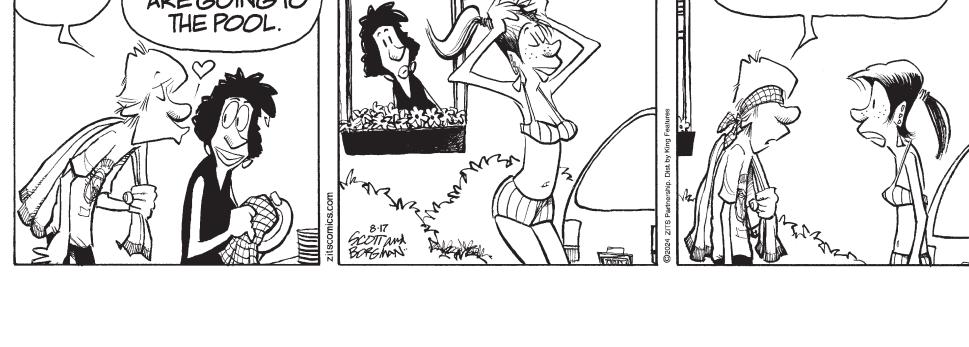
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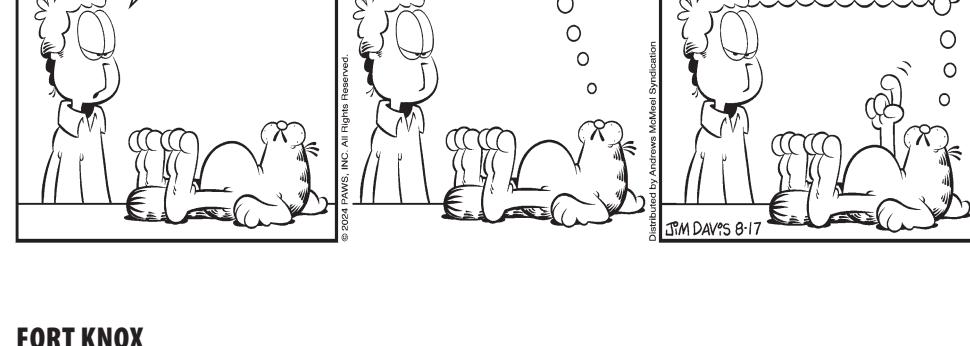
ZITS



CRABGRASS



GARFIELD



TODAY IN HISTORY

Today in history:

On Aug. 17, 1998, President Bill Clinton gave grand jury testimony via closed-circuit television from the White House concerning his relationship with Monica Lewinsky; he then delivered a TV address in which he admitted his relationship with Lewinsky was "wrong" but denied previously committing perjury (Clinton was subsequently impeached by the House of Representatives, but acquitted in the Senate).

Also on this date:

In 1807, Robert Fulton's North River Steamboat made its first voyage, heading up the Hudson River on a successful round trip between New York City and Albany.

In 1863, federal batteries and ships began bombarding Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor during the Civil War, but the Confederates managed to hold on despite several days of shelling.

In 1915, a mob in Cobb County, Georgia, lynched Jewish businessman Leo

Frank, 31, whose death sentence for the murder of 13-year-old Mary Phagan had been commuted to life imprisonment. (Frank, who'd maintained his innocence, was pardoned by the state of Georgia in 1986.)

In 1945, Sukarno and Mohammad Hatta proclaimed independence for Indonesia, setting off the Indonesian National Revolution against Dutch rule.

In 1945, the George Orwell novel "Animal Farm," an allegorical satire of Soviet Communism, was first published in London by Martin Secker & Warburg.

In 1959, trumpeter Miles Davis released "Kind of Blue," regarded as one of the most influential jazz albums of all time.

In 1978, the first successful trans-Atlantic balloon flight ended as Maxie Anderson, Ben Abruzzo and Larry Newman landed their Double Eagle II outside Paris.

In 1988, Pakistani President Mohammad Zia

ul-Haq and U.S. Ambassador Arnold Raphael were killed in a mysterious plane crash.

In 1999, more than 17,000 people were killed when a magnitude 7.4 earthquake struck the Kocaeli Province of Turkey.

Today's Birthdays: Computer scientist Margaret Hamilton is 88. Actor Robert DeNiro is 81. Businessman Larry Ellison is 80. Film director Martha Coolidge is 78. Filmmaker/author Julian Fellowes is 75. Tennis Hall of Famer Guillermo Vilas is 72. Singer Belinda Carlisle is 66. Author Jonathan Franzen is 65. Actor Sean Penn is 64. Singer/actor Donnie Wahlberg is 55. College Basketball Hall of Famer and retired NBA All-Star Christian Laettner is 55. Rapper Posdnuos (De La Soul) is 55. Tennis Hall of Famer Jim Courier is 54. Soccer great Thierry Henry is 47. Rock climber Alex Honnold is 39. Actor Austin Butler is 33. Singer-songwriter Phoebe Bridgers is 30.

FORT KNOX



PICKLES



Jewish businessman Leo

Jewish businessman Leo

Norton Foundation grant to bring virtual medical care to MCS students

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Virtual medical care will be available to students at Madison Consolidated Schools (MCS) for the current school year due to a \$40,000 grant from the Norton Children's Hospital Foundation.

Norton Healthcare and Madison Consolidated Schools (MCS) will partner to offer virtual medical care to students at all six schools across the MCS system in Jefferson County for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Norton eCare School Telemedicine Program will allow MCS students to see a Norton Healthcare provider through a secure video visit at the school nurse's office. Working together, the school nurse and Norton Healthcare provider will use special medical technology to examine the student, look at the child's skin, listen to their heart and lungs, and check their nose, throat and ears. The nurse also can perform tests for strep throat, COVID and flu.

Common conditions that can be diagnosed and treated through a telemedicine visit include cold, fever, rash, earache, pinkeye and sore throat. After the visit, the provider will follow up with the parent and send an after-visit summary home with the child. Any needed medications will be sent to the family's pharmacy of choice.

"We are so very thankful for this opportunity to partner with Norton Healthcare to provide this service for our students and families," said MCS Superintendent Teresa Brown. "We know families are busy, and sometimes there are barriers to care, so we are very

excited to offer this option during the school day for those who may need it. Our school nurses will work with administrators to communicate with our families regarding the details of how the program will work."

"The goal is to keep children healthy, in school and learning," said Rachel R. Alexander, DNP, APRN, manager of telehealth, Norton Healthcare. "Through the program, we can evaluate the child while at school and allow them to remain in class if possible."

The Norton eCare Telemedicine Program was launched in 2019 at three Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) elementary schools in Louisville, and expanded to all JCPS elementary schools in 2024. The grant from the Norton Children's Hospital Foundation will allow the expansion to Madison.

"This program is a very strong statement to how it takes a village to care for children," said Lynnie Meyer, R.N., Ed.D., FAHP, CFRE, senior vice president and chief development officer, Norton Healthcare. "Donors to the Norton Children's Hospital Foundation are making it possible to provide this type of care for children and their parents, making health care more accessible and convenient."

School telehealth visits are billable through the parent's insurance plan or covered under Medicaid and Medicare. Copays are similar to an office visit. Parents must complete a registration form online to enroll their student in the program. Visit SchoolTelehealth.NortonHealthcare.org to enroll students.

Southwestern Food Pantry



Bob Demaree

Mary Hawk sets up a sign last Sunday for the Southwestern Food Pantry that is held twice monthly. The next food pantry is Sunday, Aug. 25, at noon. In September, the food pantry will be moving to Saturdays with distributions Sept. 14 and Sept. 28.



Bob Demaree

Cindy Myers, librarian for Southwestern schools, assists a patron during the Southwestern Food Pantry drive-through distribution on Sunday.



Bob Demaree

Volunteers (from left) Cindy Myers, Natasha McQueary and Tammy Simmons wrestle with a bag of cabbage while gathering up produce last Sunday for the Southwestern Food Pantry. The pantry recently served as many as 65 families, providing food from the Gleaners Food Bank.



Bob Demaree

Volunteers (from left) Mary Hawk, Lavena Myers and Sharon King load food into a vehicle at the Southwestern Food Pantry distribution on Sunday. "We don't want anyone to go hungry," said pantry organizer Tammy Simmons.



Bob Demaree

Volunteers (from left) Lavena Myers, Sharon King, Natasha McQueary and Tammy Simmons bag items in the food pantry room at Southwestern in preparation for last Sunday's food distribution. Shipments arrive twice monthly from Gleaners Food Bank for distribution to local families.

Historical marker to honor Switzerland County research chemist

BY THE COURIER STAFF

An Indiana state historical marker commemorating research chemist Lella Trafel will be dedicated at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, at the Switzerland County Historical Museum, the location of the marker.

Trafel was a groundbreaking research chemist who was born along State Road 156 east of Vevay.

Martha Bladen, executive director of the Switzerland County Historical Society, said there were originally plans to have the marker at the house where Trafel lived but there was no safe area for vehicles to stop and be able to read the marker,

resulting in the marker being placed at the museum, 208 East Market Street, Vevay.

Trafel oversaw laboratories at the U.S. Rubber Company, Naugatuck Chemical Division in Connecticut. In the 1940s, Trafel began a decades long-career at Michigan's Wyandotte Chemicals Corporation, where she overcame gender barriers.

Trafel developed methods to determine detergent levels in rivers and lakes, work that intersected with passage of the 1948 Federal Water Pollution Control Act. She helped women advance in chemistry, training employees in analytical research.

The public is invited to attend the dedication for this historical marker. This marker is the fifth state historical marker to be installed in Switzerland County.

The historic marker program is administered by the Indiana State Historical Bureau, a division of the Indiana State Library. The \$3,000 funding for the marker included grants from the Pomeroy Foundation, the Vevay-Switzerland County Foundation, the Women's Giving Circle of Switzerland County, and the Pam and Bud Acton Endowment Fund with the Community Foundation of Switzerland County, and the Switzerland County Historical Society.

that investigation the alleged victim and others were interviewed, including Washer, and on Tuesday, Aug. 13, the case was handed over to the Jefferson County Prosecutor's Office and a criminal summons was issued for Washer to appear at an initial hearing at 8 a.m. Friday, Aug. 16, where he is facing a charge of Battery, a Class B misdemeanor.

DeVries, who currently serves as the City Fire Marshal, is a seasoned veteran of the Madison Fire Department and previously held the position of Fire Chief. He brings a wealth of experience and leadership to the role, the city's statement said.

"Bill DeVries is a proven leader with a deep commitment to our community

ty. His extensive knowledge and experience will ensure that the Madison Fire Department continues to operate at the highest level during this transition period," said Courtney.

DeVries has more than 19 years of experience in fire service, including his prior tenure as chief, where he was instrumental in advancing fire safety initiatives and enhancing the department's training programs.

"This department and our community mean a great deal to me," said DeVries. "I'm honored to step back into this role and work alongside the dedicated men and women of the Madison Fire Department to keep our city safe."

CHIEF

FROM PAGE A1

The city will begin the search for a permanent fire chief immediately. In the meantime, DeVries will "work closely with department personnel to ensure the department remains fully prepared to serve the residents of Madison."

Washer's resignation comes after the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department was asked by Madison Police to investigate an alleged incident of inappropriate behavior by Washer to a female resident while conducting his duties with the street department.

During the course of

estimated to save \$6 to \$14 in taxpayer expenditures for every dollar invested in extending the life of a roadway.

INDOT reminds drivers to slow down, avoid

distractions, and consider worker safety when traveling through active work zones. All work is weather-dependent and schedules are subject to change.

DRIVE

FROM PAGE A1

and lowers maintenance costs. The procedure is

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Hanover Council approves plan for Three Bends Subdivision

BY BOB DEMAREE

A proposed subdivision on 16.31 acres at 151 Kuntz Road in Hanover received endorsement of the Hanover Town Council at a special meeting Tuesday, allowing a project that has been in the works for more than a year to move forward.

The town council approved a resolution accepting the formal plat of the Three Bends Subdivision, along with approval of the resolution from the town's plan commission that last week unanimously recommended approval.

The council also approved a \$750,000 four-year bond for the project that had also been recommended

by the plan commission.

The petition for the Three Bends Subdivision was made by Hanover Mobile Village Corporation for 56 homes. Even though the project is being done by Hanover Mobile Village, company president Rod Kiefer emphasized that the homes will not be a trailer park. He anticipates the subdivision construction in two phases — 30 in the first phase and 26 in the second phase.

In other business, the town council held first readings of four ordinances that will be considered at this coming Tuesday's town council meeting.

An ordinance to amend an error in the town's cur-

rent election law limiting residents of the city's three districts to voting on candidates for their district and at-large seats. The amendment will update the ordinance to coincide with what has been done in past elections. Town residents will be eligible to vote in all districts but those who serve in district seats must live in that district.

An ordinance to amend the traffic schedule and update that Main Cross Street in front of Southwestern schools will permanently be set at a 20 mph limit maximum. The ordinance currently states the speed limit is 20 mph during school hours and 30 mph during other

times. "We felt the school has many activities" that regularly draws people there, and the lower speed limit is needed for safety reasons, said town council president Debbie Kroger.

An ordinance to create a Local Income Tax Public Safety Fund, which will separate out a percentage of that revenue to be dedicated to public safety and automatically go into its own fund. "That way it doesn't get confused and used for something else," Kroger said.

An ordinance to amend the hours and rules for all of the Hanover parks. The hours, currently from dawn to dusk, will now be 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

County Council gives final approval for 8% Innkeeper's tax

BY BOB DEMAREE

Jefferson County Council on Tuesday unanimously approved an increase in the county's innkeeper's tax from 5% to 8%.

The Council had indicated support for the proposal at its July meeting with the members offering support after the first reading.

"We did have multiple staff representing the tourism industry who worked hard to do this research and put this proposal together, and were going to switch around their schedules to be here tonight, and we told them it probably wasn't necessary; that we were just going to read through the ordinance," said Council President Heather Foy prior to Tuesday's vote.

Following the second reading there was a vote to suspend the rules and immediately move to a third reading. After that the tax increase was adopted.

In March, the Indiana General Assembly passed Senate Bill 238 authorizing Jefferson County, once approved by the County Council, to impose the innkeeper's tax increase and Gov. Eric Holcomb signed the bill into law.

The ordinance establishes that the innkeeper's tax increase will take effect Jan. 1, 2025. Additionally, the ordinance states that one-half of the additional 3% increase — 1.5% of the increase or 18.75% of the total collected funds — must be earmarked for tourism capital expenditures including investment in land, buildings, vehicles and equipment, and economic development projects.

The innkeeper's tax, which is levied on all rooms in hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, Airbnbs and other lodgings, was established for Jefferson County in 1981 at 4% and increased to 5% in 1987 with no changes in the last 36 years other than growth of the local tourism industry.

Foy emphasized the increase does not affect county residents. "This is not an added expense out of their pocket unless they choose to stay at one of our lovely overnight establishments for a night away from home. This will bring in substantial dollars" to benefit local tourism.

In other business, the council:

• Provided final

approval of an ordinance on sex offenders related to changes in state law that require an annual \$50 fee for all sex offenders that includes a \$5 administrative charge for residency and phone number changes to be charged by the county Sheriff's Office.

• With \$9,000 dedicated for health insurance for each county employee, there was a request to increase that by \$500 per employee to ensure the funding is in place. Heather White, the county's human resources director, said that would provide an additional \$91,500 for the year to ensure that the county's health insurance is funded adequately. Chad Burdo, representing Henriott Group, the health insurance brokers for Jefferson County government, projected an increase of 4.8% in health insurance costs for the county. No decision was made by the Council.

• Approved additional appropriations totaling \$131,926.69 including \$30,000 for the Surveyor's office for surveying cornerstones in Jefferson County. County Auditor Heather Huff said the funds are needed because a portion of the contracted-out work done last year was submitted for payment this year, which left unused money at the end of last year. Additionally, more funds are needed for this year's work. Under general repairs, there was \$65,692.36 as a result of insurance from spring storms that required new roofs at the health department and the extension office of which a portion was reimbursed. There was \$9,327.26 for the Flock safety cameras that are used to monitor traffic on the roadways.

For the Sheriff's Office under medical, there was \$18,186.54 for reimbursement with regard to nursing staff when a contractual obligation was not met. Also in the Sheriff's Office there was \$6,934.21 under garage and motors for insurance reimbursement for damage to vehicles, \$644.32 under jail miscellaneous for a broken sprinkler head and \$1,472 under jail maintenance for a broken window, both damage caused by inmates. "We get reimbursed when they damage property, and we charge them," said Chief Deputy Laura Pickel.

DG Market in Madison on track to open near Labor Day weekend

BY BOB DEMAREE

The long awaited return of a grocery store in downtown Madison is getting closer to becoming a reality with DG Market expected to open in a few weeks.

Tony Steinhardt III, the city's economic development director, said after Tuesday's Redevelopment Commission meeting, that his most recent contact with the regional manager confirmed "they were still targeting Labor Day" weekend.

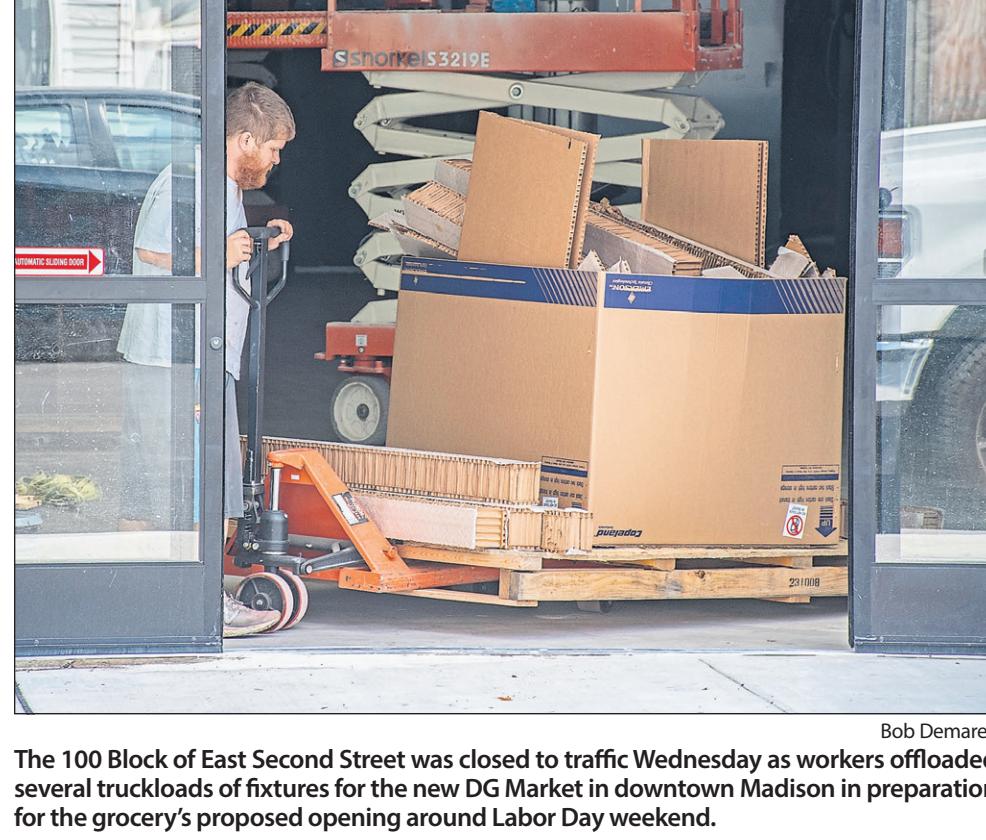
On Wednesday, trucks arrived and fixtures were unloaded into the store. The contractor is scheduled to complete construction by Aug. 18. Steinhardt said it is expected to take at least a week to stock the store.

An elevator that will move product from the lower level to the upper level still has not arrived, and may not arrive until November, said Steinhardt. "We're going to let them load and unload off Second Street for the time being," he said.

Steinhardt said a ribbon cutting ceremony will likely occur in mid-September after the store opens.

In other business:

• Steinhardt said he hopes to have bids for the extension of the Heritage Trail to the south entrance of Clifty Falls State Park by the October meeting of the Redevelopment Commission. In 2022, a \$2,160,160 grant was awarded from the State of Indiana's Next Level Trails grant program to the local Heritage Trail Conservancy. The goal is that after the trail reaches the park entrance



Bob Demaree

The 100 Block of East Second Street was closed to traffic Wednesday as workers offloaded several truckloads of fixtures for the new DG Market in downtown Madison in preparation for the grocery's proposed opening around Labor Day weekend.

that it will eventually be extended to Hanover, an effort that was helped earlier this month when Hanover College received a \$30 million College and Community Collaboration from Lilly Endowment Inc. that included \$10 million for the Hanover-Madison connector trail project.

• Additionally, Steinhardt noted Hanover College's Lilly grant includes funding for a trolley to be developed that can travel from Madison to Hanover. With those funds plus support from Jefferson County Board of Tourism and additional grants, "it will allow us to connect Clifty Falls State Park to downtown as well as Hanover College," he

said. "We know that's pretty important" because 10% to 12% of the visitors to downtown come from a combination of the park and Hanover.

• Mayor Bob Courtney commended the work of Emily McKinney and Steinhardt, saying they have done an "amazing job with the volume and amount investment happening across the community, and the amount of projects that we're managing. I think it's amazing we're doing what we're doing with a two-person staff." He said they are working to determine the city's economic development priorities for the next three to five years. "It's going to help us now as we're winding down on a

whole series of projects as we focus and maximize those investments, and create more revenue in the process."

• Steinhardt said a new position — a grant project assistant — is being added to the city's economic development department to assist with the workload along with enhancing grant opportunities for the city. The hope is to have the position filled later this fall.

• Courtney said the city is about a month away from a ribbon cutting ceremony at Ohio River Legacy Park in downtown Madison and that a ribbon cutting for Residences at Sunrise Crossing on the hilltop is expected to take place in October.

Push being made to buy emergency water craft for Jefferson County

BY BOB DEMAREE

In an effort to improve public safety and the ability to respond to emergencies on the Ohio River, an effort is underway to purchase an emergency water craft for Jefferson County.

Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency Director Matt True discussed that proposal with County Commissioners at their meeting last week and again with the County Council at its meeting Tuesday.

True said the need for an emergency water craft is long overdue, and the need is heightened when riverboats are docking at Madison with potentially more than 100 passengers. Last month, American Cruise Lines had two vessels port at Madison — the riverboat American Melody and the paddle wheeler American Heritage, and True suggested the two boats combined could have had 300 passengers on them.

"Those are the things that keep me up at night," True told the Commissioners, noting the possibilities of what could go

wrong with two boats filled with

passengers. "If something happens, I don't know what we're going to do."

Speaking to the Council, True explained that there is "a lot of coastline in Jefferson County. We have a lot of tourism come through here. We're the largest port between Louisville and Cincinnati, so we've got a lot of people in and out" of an "active port. We have a huge boating population in the county that sometimes needs help. Emergencies happen" and currently when that happens Milton Fire and Rescue is called upon to respond with their boat.

Milton Fire and Rescue started a water rescue program in 1997 with the current boat put into service in October 2005 to replace an older 1971 aristocrat boat the department owned. However, True thinks more substantial water safety needs to be provided by Jefferson County.

I think it's a little bit of a stretch at this point that we would rely on Milton Fire and Rescue, population 600, to take care of business for us when

something happens in the water," he said.

Switzerland County has operated a fire rescue boat since 2012 when it was purchased at a cost of \$50,000 by the Jeff-Craig Volunteer Fire Department with matching grants by the Vevay-Switzerland County Foundation and the Community Foundation of Switzerland County.

True said Switzerland County's boat is a "small 21-foot, flat-bottom boat" that may be able to hold "four to five people at best."

True is proposing a DGS Pro boat with a price tag of \$279,000 that he said would fully meet the needs of Jefferson County for an emergency water craft. "With something like this, we have the capacity that we can get passengers on and off if we need to do that on some bigger vessel. And we would be able to tow some bigger vessels to the bank to get out of harm's way."

Speaking on True's proposal Tuesday afternoon, Madison Mayor Bob Courtney said the city appropriated \$100,000 from

its American Rescue Plan funds in 2021 that has not been spent and must be obligated by the end of year according to ARP requirements.

True suggested \$200,000 more in funding will be needed while reaching out to county government but the County Council made no commitment.

"We are working on a collaboration for us to purchase an emergency water craft that will allow both the city and county to respond to emergencies on our riverfront," said Courtney. "We've had emergencies. We've had fires. We've had public safety issues and we rely on Milton Fire and Rescue with their water craft. It's been a multi-year goal of ours for a long time. This is what we're evaluating now. We have the resources to acquire it, and we want to do it."

"We feel like we're making the best decision," True said, noting if the county can come together with the city to make it happen "I think this will be a great opportunity for us and a great time to do that, considering all the things we have got on

the horizon," particularly with American Cruise Lines regularly bringing riverboats to the city and the emphasis on recreation and tourism, which there currently isn't adequate apparatus to handle it.

County Council President Heather Foy said more work is needed such as determining policies and procedures on who would be permitted to drive the boat, along with qualifications and certifications. She also cited consideration of annual maintenance costs, fuel costs, insurance and other ongoing expenses associated with the boat.

She also questioned how often emergency water craft are being utilized in other counties along the Ohio River. "Did it go out three times in the year last year? Was it out three times a month and highly utilized? ... I know it's great to have it. I'm just curious how often it's needed," she said.

Foy said she appreciated the information about the emergency water craft, which she said is in the early stages of consideration.

State board revokes Holt's funeral director's license

License of New Albany funeral home suspended 90 days

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

A longtime Madison funeral director has lost his license and a New Albany funeral home with Madison ties had its license suspended for 90 days earlier this month.

Jim Holt, a Jefferson County funeral director for more than six decades, had his license revoked immediately at an Aug. 1 meeting of the Indiana State Board of Funeral and Cemetery Service in a 4-0 vote by that board.

Additionally, Holt was found guilty of 14 violations cited while he worked for Spring Valley Funeral & Cremation Service in New Albany and was imposed

a civil penalty of \$100 for each count, totaling \$1,400 to be paid over 12 months.

The action against Holt followed an inspection on June 28 of the Spring Valley Funeral & Cremation Service, 1217 E. Spring St., New Albany, conducted by Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (IPLA) compliance officers Courtney Calvert and Kim Russell, who cited the funeral home for dangerous conditions.

The board voted to suspend the license of Spring Valley for 90 days because of what they deemed "clear and immediate danger to the public health."

Spring Valley funeral home was owned by Anthony Oxendine until March 12 when the business was purchased by Trevor Lytle, who co-owns Lytle Welty Funeral Homes & Cremation Service in Madison. Prior to that, there were pending disciplinary cases against the New Albany funeral home including

three consecutive failed inspections which Lytle said he was not aware of at the time of purchase.

The building where the funeral home is located is leased by the business. Based on testimony at the state hearing, Lytle purchased the business but had trouble getting the lease transferred due to Oxendine not moving out of an apartment above the facility. "The lease and the landlord is in the eviction process with him now," Lytle testified adding that Oxendine had since moved out on July 29.

Oxendine, who also operates a Spring Valley funeral home in Louisville, does not have an active funeral director license in Indiana, but had full access to the New Albany facility.

Inspectors cited the funeral home for "dangerous conditions" including an alleged "strong smell" of decomposition in the embalming room, apparently from a body awaiting transport

to a crematory. Blood and other fluids were found on surfaces in the embalming room along with several flies, investigators said in their testimony.

Other testimony said six large, full medical waste containers were being stored in the embalming room after apparently being brought to the New Albany by Oxendine from his other Spring Valley location in Louisville. There was discussion on the legality of transporting hazardous waste over state lines and funeral and cemetery board Chairman Thomas Sproles said he could not answer that but stated "It's probably not a good idea."

Prior to the board's vote on license suspension, Lytle said "with more time in the facility I can fix all those issues."

Holt's suspension and fines are related to his tenure as manager of the funeral home under Oxendine's ownership. Holt tes-

tified that he worked part-time and that he never agreed to nor was hired to manage the business. However, Holt was listed as the licensed manager on several documents with his signature, Oxendine was not licensed in Indiana and the funeral home was required to have a licensed funeral director on staff.

"I was the funeral director — that's what I was hired for — funeral services and to go to the cemetery," Holt testified. He said he was only working at the business because he needed the money, and told board members he had resigned from the job and has no plans to renew his funeral director's license next year.

Holt, who said he is 80, has a long history in the funeral business in Madison, becoming managing partner of Vail Funeral Home following the death of Dana Vail in 1973. The funeral home was eventually renamed Vail-Holt Funeral Home.

BEAT

FROM PAGE A1

Seating is limited, of course, so we are having two performances, one at 2:00 and another at 4:00. Tickets are available at MadTixEvents.com. Oh, and I should mention that Alcorn, Sage, Schwartz & Magrath LLP are making this possible through their generous sponsorship.

"This is the first of several concerts we'll be staging in the future, so people should keep an eye out for future announcements. All of the concerts will be completely acoustic, with no electronic amplification, so you'll be hearing exactly what it sounded like some 170 years ago before modern technology was available. The historical accounts also tell about all the elaborate dancing that went on in these homes as well, so that's fun to think about."

"There's another aspect to these amazingly preserved historic homes



Celeste Cecilia Huerta-Lauf, who will perform at Shrewsbury-Windle House in Madison, Indiana, at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 25.

that we want to put more focus on in the future," added Jess. "Obviously it was usually the men with the resources and will to build these homes originally. But it was quite often women who were instrumental in the preservation and legacy

of how these structures survived.

"We will be talking more about that going forward, how the women descendants of the original builders were often the tireless caretakers who made sure these homes survived into the 20th

century. Their stories are worth recounting in their own right."

Hot Tip of the Week

There are a couple of shows of special note this weekend, not the least of which is one of Madison's premier music festivals, Ribberfest BBQ

& Blues, this Friday and Saturday. But before we get into that, you'll want to enjoy a rare solo acoustic show featuring Madison's own Rusty Bladen at Live Lunch at Broadway Fountain, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. It's the perfect way to kick off Ribberfest weekend, with a little Homegrown Rock & Roll. Later on Friday, the blues music starts at 6 p.m. at Bicentennial Park and goes until midnight or so with Ana Popovic headlining. On Saturday there is an all day slate of great blues music, starting at 11:30 a.m. with one of my personal favorites, King Bee & the Stingers. It's the first of 6 live acts on the main stage on Saturday. But you can also catch our very own Jordan Wilson playing in the Beer Garden in between main acts. All in all, another weekend that supports our claim as Indiana's Music City!

Charlie Rohlfsing is a retired advertising man and partner in The Red Bicycle Hall music venue. Look for his distinctive

fedora bobbing above the crowd, anywhere live local music is happening.

MUSIC EVENTS SCHEDULE

Friday, August 16

Bicentennial Park — Ribberfest
1st Street Saloon — DJ Nate
Rivertown Grill — Strange Brew
Live Lunch (Broadway Fountain) — Rusty Bladen (11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.)
VFW — Liquor Boxx Band (8-midnight)
Tailgators Bar and Grill
— Patriotic Karaoke (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)

Saturday, August 17

Bicentennial Park — Ribberfest
1st Street Saloon — L&L Karaoke
Rivertown Grill — Crossfire Central — Rock Steady (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Tailgators Bar and Grill — No Name Band (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
The Drake — BG Johnson Brass Band (11 p.m.-1 a.m.)

Sunday, August 18

Rivertown Grill — Zach Hackney

SPIESS

FROM PAGE A1

Each of the Madison projects were scored high by the OurSIRDA board of directors. The Madison Revitalization was the top rated project under blight and development for Lilly Endowment grant consideration. The Madison amphitheater ranked second out the 74 READI 2.0 projects, and the Madison Coal Property housing ranked 10th.

Gary Smith, a CPA with Reedy Financial Group, said nearly \$2 million is being generated annually through the North Madison TIF allocation area

for the city to invest in economic development. With the North Madison TIF ending in a decade, he said, "The city needs to start investing in other areas to supplement that revenue," noting that "the city has no other means of funding economic development projects other than TIF revenues."

Smith explained the North Madison TIF area falls under the legacy TIF statute, having existed prior to 1994 without an expiration. "The rules changed in 2014 that said any legacy TIF areas that don't have debt on them will expire in 2025," and Madison and many other communities issued debt on their legacy in 2015 that

extended its life to 2035. "It's been extended the maximum it can be, but in 2035 all the assessed value that you're currently capturing goes to your tax base, and there's nothing you can do about it, it's a statutory requirement."

Tony Steinhardt III, the city's economic development director, said the Redevelopment Commission has been running a cash balance between \$1.5 and \$2 million "that looks to continue with this current investment with the bond, leveraging on the bonds."

Courtney said, "Our adopted redevelopment plan is very broad, and it's targeting benefit for the entire city, which is broken

up into multiple allocation areas, but primary allocation is North Madison," the legacy TIF allocation area, where the bulk of the investments have been made that are generating the TIF revenues. "This financing that is being repaid by the North Madison allocation area not only is consistent with our

redevelopment plan, but it will benefit our entire city."

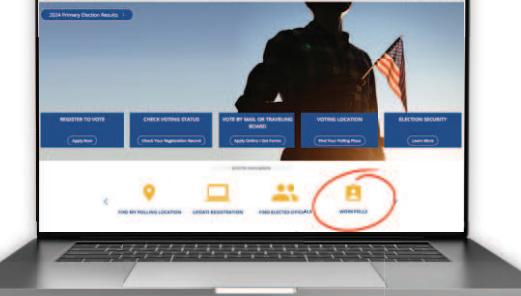
Steinhardt said the city is currently awaiting the final stages of a housing study by Club 720 Solutions, led by Heather Presley-Cowen, the company's chief executive officer. "I received a briefing last week on the data. It's very promising, not surprising

to any of us, where there's a need for housing in Madison within the two-mile buffer within the city of Madison for all income levels at all price points within that." He's hopeful that a presentation on the housing study can be made at the Tuesday, Sept. 10, meeting of the Redevelopment Commission.

POLL WORKERS Needed!

The Indiana Secretary of State's Office is calling on the next generation to fulfill your civic duty.

If you're interested, go to IndianaVoters.com and click "work polls."



2024 Madison Courier Backyard BBQ Blast

Friday, August 16

Ohio Riverfront, Madison IN

Let's review a few BBQ Blast basics:

Grilling means to cook over a fire, hot and fast. Temps start at 350F, and go as high as 500F for searing steak. Carmelization of the outside of the food locks in moisture.

Barbecuing is a low and slow method of cooking large cuts of meat for several hours. Temps range between 190 and 300F. BBQ offers a smoky, charred flavor.

Smoking is also produced by the "low and slow" method, generally 200 to 300F. Smoke is produced using smoldering chips or chunks of wood. Apple and cherry wood, as well as mesquite are popular choices.

You can use any or all of these methods to produce your mouth-watering entries in this year's contest!

WHAT ABOUT THE SAUCE?

BBQ sauce can vary widely, from sweet to tangy, mild to spicy.

Some of the common sauces are:

- Kansas City: Thick and sweet with onion, ketchup, molasses and spices
- Memphis: Tomato-based with brown sugar, mustard and vinegar and spices
- Vinegar (popular in North Carolina): Primarily vinegar based, sugar, ketchup and spices—great with pulled pork!
- Mustard (a South Carolina favorite): Tangy and slightly spicy mustard-based sauce
- Alabama White: Mayonnaise and apple cider vinegar-based

Get creative - hot peppers, fruit and jams - the choices are endless!

It is important that the sauce does not overpower the meat!! Also remember, there is such a thing as too spicy!

There is a category for Best Original Sauce. Bring our judges your tasty creations!

The Backyard Blast is an official event of the: Madison Ribberfest BBQ & Blues Festival August 16-17 Bicentennial Park, Madison, IN <https://www.madisonribberfest.com/>

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LOCAL ROUNDUP

GROUNDWORK

Madison and Switzerland square off in boys soccer scrimmage

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison and Switzerland County squared off in a boys soccer scrimmage at Madison on Wednesday.

Madison won the initial 30-minute varsity scrimmage 1-0 on a goal by Brady Lock in the 28th minute and Switzerland claimed a 1-0 win in the JV period. Two final 15 minute periods were scoreless.

Switzerland County opens the season on Saturday when the Pacers travel to Christian Academy of Indiana. Madison faces Greensburg Tuesday on the road for the Cubs' season opener.

CUBS GOLF WINS TRI-MEET

Madison didn't play its best but was still good enough to win a tri-meet at Sunrise Golf Course on Monday in girls golf.

The Cubs shot a 200 with Charlestown shooting a 223 and Southwestern a 252.

"We had a bit of a hiccup tonight, but I'm not too upset about it. We played five matches in nine days. I'm glad to get off of the course and get back to practice, though," Madison coach Jake Shockley said. "The ladies were disappointed with 200, and last year we would've been excited about it."

Madison junior Emmi Dowell shot a 38 to win medalist while Aleigh Wilson had a 48, Claire Miller a 56, Eliza Burnett a 58 and Izzie Perry had a 60. In non-scoring rounds, Alexa Davis had a 61, Tera Scharlau had a 66 and Savannah Petro had a 68.

Lilly Fox had a 53 to lead Southwestern.

"There are lots of peaks and valleys for teams and individuals when your golf game is progressing. Unfortunately, today was a valley," Shockley said. "These girls are tremendous workers and have a lot of pride. We'll get there."

On Tuesday, Switzerland County scored a win over Southwestern and Jac-Cen-Del at Butler Falls Golf Course.

The Pacers shot a 188 with Alex-



David Campbell
Madison's Henry Schmidt (2, red) battles through Switzerland County's Slayder Burkholder (1) and Ethan Rose (2, white) during Wednesday's scrimmage at Madison.



David Campbell
Switzerland County's Cooper Todd (11) heads the ball away during the Pacers' scrimmage at Madison on Wednesday.

is Mangold claiming low-medalist with a 42. Southwestern was second with a 234 while Jac-Cen-Del

did not field a complete team.

"We did a really good job tonight staying focused on the parts of our game we need to keep working at," Southwestern coach Matt Johnson said.

Fox led Southwestern with a 51, Kayla Boscia had a 55, Kaitlynn Wickersham had a 63 and Eden Wehner had a 65.

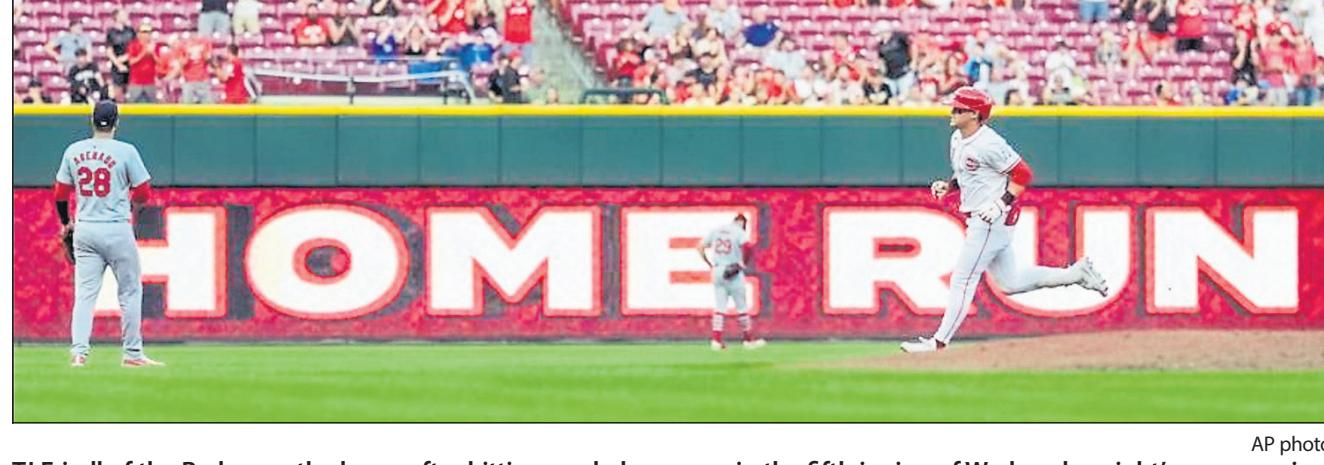
Madison hosted Jeffersonville on Thursday while Southwestern hosted Shawe and Milan, also on Thursday. All local Indiana high school teams will compete in the Madison Invitational at Sunrise Golf Course on Saturday.

Southwestern and Switzerland then compete at Jac-Cen-Del on Monday and Madison heads to Providence on Wednesday.

CARROLL GIRLS SOCCER TIES

Carroll County girls soccer opened the 2024 season with a 1-1 draw at Calvary Christian on Wednesday.

The Panthers, now 0-0-1 on the season, travel to Walton-Verona on Saturday and head to Owen County on Tuesday.



AP photo
TJ Friedl of the Reds runs the bases after hitting a solo home run in the fifth inning of Wednesday night's game against the Cardinals in Cincinnati. Cardinals third baseman Nolan Arenado (left) and left fielder Tommy Pham look away.

Reds' Friedl marks birthday with 2 homers

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — TJ Friedl homered twice on his 29th birthday, Jonathan India also hit two home runs and drove in four runs and the Cincinnati Reds completed a three-game sweep of the St. Louis Cardinals with a 9-2 victory Wednesday night.

Friedl and Barry Larkin — on April 28, 1994 — are the only Reds since at least 1901 with multihomer games on their birthday.

Tyler Stephenson also homered to help the Reds sweep a three-game series for the first time since July 2-4 at the New York Yankees.

The Reds have won their fourth straight — the first time that's happened since they strung together seven in a row in early June — and moved into a tie with St. Louis for second place in the NL Central.

On a bullpen night for Cincinnati, six pitchers combined to allow two runs on 10 hits. Sam Moll (3-1) pitched a scoreless third for the victory.

With one out in the

fourth, Will Benson walked and Noelvi Marte singled before India broke out of a 0-for-23 skid by driving a sweeper from Gibson into the seats in left field. Two batters later, Stephenson hit his 16th of the season.

India's second homer came in the fifth, a 416-foot shot to center. Three batters later, Friedl hit a towering no-doubter to right, then hit another in the seventh off Kyle Leahy.

REDS 6, CARDINALS 1

Spencer Steer homered in consecutive at-bats and drove in five runs, and Elly De La Cruz hit his team-leading 21st homer as the Cincinnati Reds beat the St. Louis Cardinals 6-1 on Monday night.

Andrew Abbott (10-9) allowed one run and five hits in 6 2/3 innings to snap his three-game losing streak. The left-hander was tagged for 12 earned runs over his previous 13 1/3 innings.

REDS 4, CARDINALS 1

Spencer Steer had a two-out, RBI single in the first inning. Ty France led off the second with a homer off the roof of the Cardinals bullpen in right, his 11th of the season.

Candelario smashed his 19th homer with two outs in the sixth.

The hard-throwing Greene (9-4) allowed four hits while striking out eight and walking one in notching his third straight win in a game played in one hour and 59 minutes.

"My body felt really good," the All-Star pitcher said. "(I was) able to get to all of my pitches. My release point felt great. Just felt super athletic and loose."

Greene was asked if he has staked his claim of being considered the Reds' ace.

"That's for the people to decide," he said. "I've already made up my mind of being one. I feel like my process has been solid. I've been as consistent as I could be. But there's still a lot of work to put in, and the season's not over yet."

Hunter Greene allowed one run through seven innings, Jeimer Candelario hit a two-run homer and the Cincinnati Reds beat the St. Louis Cardinals 4-1 on Tuesday night to secure a win of the series between the NL Central rivals.

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, AUG. 16

FOOTBALL

Carroll Co. at DeSales (scrimmage), 7 p.m.
Madison hosts Jeffersonville (scrimmage), 7 p.m.
Switzerland Co. hosts Clarksville (scrimmage), 7 p.m.
Trimble Co. at Breckinridge Co. (scrimmage), 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUG. 17

CROSS COUNTRY

Shawe, Moores Hill Invite, 8:30 a.m.

GOLF

Madison, Southwestern, Switzerland Co. girls, Madison Invite, 11 a.m.

SOCCER

Madison girls at New Albany, 10 a.m.
Carroll Co. girls at Walton-Verona, 10:30 a.m.
Switzerland Co. boys at Christian Academy of Indiana, 6 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Southwestern, Switzerland Co., Southwestern Round Robin, 11 a.m.

SUNDAY, AUG. 18

No local events

MONDAY, AUG. 19

GOLF

Southwestern, Switzerland Co. at Jac-Cen-Del, 4:30 p.m.

Shawe girls host Henryville, New Washington, 5 p.m.

SOCCER

Switzerland Co. girls host Milan, 5 p.m.
Hanover men at Evansville, 6 p.m.
Madison girls host Scottsburg, 6 p.m.
Switzerland Co. boys host Milan, 7 p.m.

TENNIS

Madison boys at New Washington, 5 p.m.
Southwestern boys host Clarksville, 5 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Shawe hosts New Washington, 7 p.m.
Southwestern at South Dearborn, 7 p.m.
Switzerland Co. hosts South Ripley, 7 p.m.
Trimble Co. at Oldham Co., 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUG. 20

GOLF

Carroll Co. boys vs. Scott at Fairway, 4 p.m.
Trimble Co. girls at Gallatin Co., 4:30 p.m.

SOCCER

Hanover men at IUPUC, 4:30 p.m.
Shawe girls host Southwestern, 5 p.m.
Madison boys at Greensburg, 5:30 p.m.
Shawe boys at Henryville, 5:30 p.m.

TENNIS

Southwestern boys hosts Edinburgh, 5 p.m.
Madison boys at Waldron, 5:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Carroll Co. hosts Williamstown, 7 p.m.
Madison at Batesville, 7 p.m.
Trimble Co. at Whitefield Academy, 7:30 p.m.

Cards-Colts joint football practice has old-style feel

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WESTFIELD — The first joint practice between the Indianapolis Colts and Arizona Cardinals felt like a throwback day.

Reggie Wayne was working on the field. Edgerrin James signed autographs for fans. Cardinals coach Jonathan Gannon spoke glowingly about the Colts ownership.

And, yes, Marvin Harrison Jr. returned to the only NFL city his father ever called home. It was a big moment for the Cardinals' 22-year-old rookie receiver.

"Yeah, it's kind of crazy," Harrison said, flashing that familiar smile his father made popular. "Just really special. So happy to be here."

Like his dad, he got right down to business.

Harrison wasn't exactly a prominent personality when his Hall of Fame father was catching passes from Peyton Manning and challenging Wayne to keep up with his record-breaking pace. The elder Harrison preferred to keep his private life, well, private.

So the younger Harrison did most of his initial work behind the scenes. He attended periodic games, occasionally attended a training camp practice, even managed to walk on the Colts' home turf. He also attended his father's induction into Indy's Ring of Honor in 2011, dreaming of getting the opportunity to one day follow in his father's footsteps.

It didn't take long to see the comparisons.

The Philadelphia prep star quickly caught the attention of college scouts. During his three seasons at Ohio State, Marvin Harrison Jr. swept the awards, too, twice earning unanimous All-American status while taking home last year's Biletnikoff Award, for the nation's top receiver, and the Big Ten MVP Award.

Meanwhile, guys such as Wayne — now a receivers coach on Indy's staff — and James, who received a Super Bowl ring from Colts owner Jim Irsay after signing with Arizona as a free agent, kept track of what the young, aspiring Harrison was doing through their former teammate.

Now Colts players are learning how tough Harrison can be to handle.

"You've got to kind of understand what he's looking for on certain routes," Indy safety Julian

SEE PRACTICE/PAGE B5

Georgia selected as No. 1 in preseason AP Top 25

Expanded SEC,
Big Ten flex muscles

BY RALPH D. RUSSO
AP COLLEGE FOOTBALL WRITER

Georgia is No. 1 in The Associated Press Top 25 preseason college football poll for the second straight year as the superconference era begins with the SEC and Big Ten dominating the top 10 of the rankings.

The Bulldogs received 46 first-place votes and 1,532 points in the Top 25 released Monday and the SEC powerhouse finished comfortably ahead of No. 2 Ohio State (15 first-place votes and 1,490 points) of the Big Ten.

New Big Ten member Oregon is No. 3, receiving one first-place vote from the panel of 62 media members who cover college football. Texas, which joins Georgia in the Southeastern Conference this season, is fourth.

The Big Ten and SEC each have four teams in the top 10.

Conference realignment has reduced the Power Five to the Power Four, with the Pac-12 whittled to just two schools. The Big Ten now has 18 schools. The Atlantic Coast Conference has 17 football teams, and the SEC and Big 12 each have 16.

All the movement created an unprecedented preseason poll

with just four conferences represented: The SEC leads with nine ranked teams. The Big Ten has six, the Big 12 has five and the ACC has four.

Alabama, in its first season without coach Nick Saban since 2006, starts No. 5. No. 6 Mississippi gives the SEC half the top preseason top six.

Independent Notre Dame is the highest ranked team from outside the SEC and Big Ten at No. 7.

No. 8 Penn State and No. 9 Michigan give the Big Ten four top 10 teams. Florida State from the ACC is No. 10.

TITLE GAME FINALISTS

The defending national champion Wolverines said goodbye to coach Jim Harbaugh, quarterback J.J. McCarthy and 12 other players who were selected in April's NFL draft. All that attrition led to Michigan receiving the lowest preseason ranking for a defending national champion since 2011, when Auburn was No. 23 after the departure of Cam Newton.

Before that, the last time a defending national champion was ranked worse than No. 7 in the following preseason poll was Colorado at No. 13 in 1991.

Washington, which lost to Michigan in the College Football Playoff championship game, took an even bigger fall after los-



Oregon wide receiver Tez Johnson reacts after a touchdown against Washington during the Pac-12 championship game on Dec. 1, 2023, in Las Vegas.

TOP-RANKED DAWGS

ing its head coach (Kalen DeBoer replaced Saban at Alabama), star quarterback and a mountain of talent to the draft and transfer portal. The Huskies are the first team to reach the CFP and be unranked the following season, and the first team to be unranked after finishing the previous season No. 2 in the AP poll since Army in 1951. The rankings were a Top 20 then.

The only team to finish No. 1 and start the next season unranked was Minnesota in 1961, but the AP poll was a Top 10 then.

Georgia started last season at No. 1 in pursuit of a record third straight national championship. Coach Kirby Smart's Bulldogs stayed there the whole regular season, and then missed the four-team playoff by losing the SEC title game to Alabama.

"We're dealing with new challenges this year," Smart said at SEC media days. "We don't have a chip on our shoulder in terms of people trying to use that as motivation. I've never used a failure from

the previous year as motivation and never used the success of a previous year as motivation; we won't do that this year. That's not who we are. We want to recreate ourselves to stay in the best light we can."

There will be more room for error this season with the playoff expanding from four to 12 teams.

The Bulldogs are 42-2 over the last three seasons and loaded again. Quarterback Carson Beck leads the offense and edge rusher Mykel Williams is in line to be the next defensive star at Georgia.

Beck is a rarity in college football these days, a star quarterback in his fifth season with the same school who waited three years to become starter. Beck completed 72% of his passes last year, with 24 touchdowns and six interceptions.

"He is a great elder for us and great example of resiliency in college football," Smart said.

Repeating as preseason No. 1 is a recent trend. Going back eight seasons, Alabama had separate streaks of three (2016-18) and two (2021-22) years as preseason No. 1. Clemson was top-ranked in the 2019 and '20 preseason rankings.

Georgia will try to become the 12th team since the AP preseason poll started in 1950 to start No. 1 and finish No. 1. The last was Alabama in 2017.

Reality check: How ranked teams' season could go wrong

BY RALPH D. RUSSO
AP COLLEGE FOOTBALL WRITER

We interrupt this optimistic time of year for some pessimism.

The preseason AP Top 25 is out and college football fans all over the country can dream about how this year it all comes together for their team.

Teams that begin the season ranked can be especially hopeful — but maybe curb your enthusiasm.

After 2021 and '22 produced record turnover in the rankings from start to finish — a combined 29 teams ended those seasons unranked after starting in the Top 25 — last year was one of the chalkiest of the 2000s: 17 teams that started the season ranked finished it that way, the most since 2019.

Still, there was plenty of disappointment to go around. Looking at you, Southern California. Reality Check kicks off the season pondering how things can go wrong for each team in the preseason Top 25.

NO. 1 GEORGIA

Opener: vs. Clemson in Atlanta, Aug. 31.

Reality check: Coach Kirby Smart's roster is too stacked to realistically consider the Bulldogs becoming just the second team to be No. 1 in the preseason Top 25 and finish unranked (USC in 2012). However, three road games against top-six teams raises the degree of difficulty substantially from its SEC East schedule in recent years.

Ranking: Just right.

NO. 2 OHIO STATE

Opener: vs. Akron, Aug. 31.

Reality check: The Buckeyes are on a mission after three straight losses to Michigan, but they have a lot riding on a quarterback (Will Howard) who was never better than second-team Big 12 in four seasons at Kansas State.

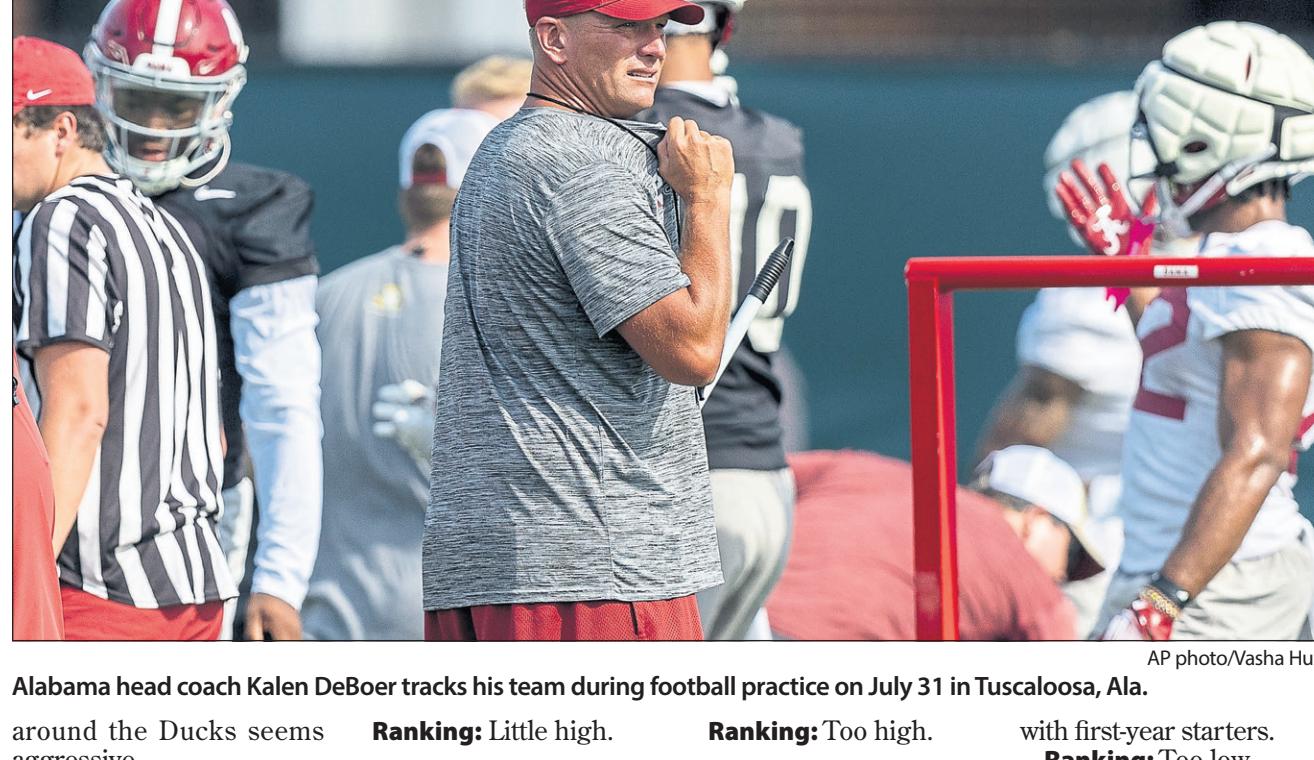
Ranking: The Buckeyes are the only other viable choice for No. 1, but this is fine.

NO. 3 OREGON

Opener: vs. Idaho, Aug. 31.

Reality check: The Ducks are plugging defensive holes, especially in the secondary, through the portal. It looks pretty good on paper but how the newbies gel is critical. A leaky secondary can really undermine a potential playoff team. See: LSU last year.

Ranking: The buzz



Alabama head coach Kalen DeBoer tracks his team during football practice on July 31 in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Sarkisian and Co. did last year in Austin?

Ranking: Little low.

NO. 20 TEXAS A&M

Opener: vs. No. 7 Notre Dame, Aug. 31.

Reality check: The Aggies probably would have declined the pre-season ranking if given a choice, coming off three straight seasons of under-achievement under Jimbo Fisher. Expectations are more modest this season and the roster is pretty tantalizing, but it's one thing to flip a program's fortunes in the ACC — as coach Mike Elko quickly did at Duke. It's quite another to do it in this SEC.

Ranking: Too high.

NO. 21 ARIZONA

Opener: vs. New Mexico, Aug. 31.

Reality check: New coach Brent Brennan and his staff held on to headliners QB Noah Fifita and WR Tetairoa McMillan after Jedd Fisch bolted for Washington, but the coaching transition will make it much tougher for the Wildcats to sustain last season's leap forward.

Ranking: About right.

NO. 22 KANSAS

Opener: vs. Lindenwood, Aug. 31.

Reality check: The Jayhawks have a lot riding on the health of QB Jalon Daniels, who has been limited to 12 games the past two seasons because of injuries.

Ranking: Too high.

NO. 23 USC

Opener: vs. LSU in Las Vegas, Sept. 1.

Reality check: Will a massive overhaul to the coaching staff fix the defense? QB Caleb Williams isn't around to bail out the Trojans anymore. Lincoln Riley has a lot to prove.

Ranking: Too high.

NO. 24 NORTH CAROLINA STATE

Opener: vs. Western Carolina.

Reality check: For the second straight year, the Wolfpack bring in a dual-threat transfer quarterback to perk up the offense. It didn't work last year with Brennan Armstrong. Will it be different with Grayson McCall?

Ranking: Too high.

NO. 25 IOWA

Opener: vs. Illinois State, Aug. 31.

Reality check: The offense has to get better, right? Right?

Ranking: Just right.

Ranking: Little high.

NO. 4 TEXAS

Opener: vs. Colorado State, Aug. 31.

Reality check: Texas is back doesn't seem like a sarcastic joke after the Longhorns' playoff run, but the best part of a solid defense last year were two game-wrecking interior linemen (Byron Murphy and T'Vondre Sweat). Without them, transition to the SEC could come with some growing pains.

Ranking: Could be No. 3.

NO. 5 ALABAMA

Opener: vs. Western Kentucky, Aug. 31.

Reality check: Replacing the greatest coach of all time has to come with some regression. Just how much can Kalen DeBoer limit it, now coaching in the toughest conference in the country?

Ranking: Too high for so much turnover.

NO. 10 FLORIDA STATE

Opener: vs. Georgia Tech in Dublin, Ireland, Aug. 24.

Reality check: The Seminoles returned to the field of elite teams last season. The next test for coach Mike Norvell is sustainability after saying goodbye to the core of that team. There is still talent, but Florida State needs new difference-makers and tone-setters to emerge and that's not a given.

Ranking: Too low.

NO. 6 MISSISSIPPI

Opener: vs. Furman, Aug. 31.

Reality check: Lane Kiffin has already warned that his team of portal All-Stars needs to be more than just a flashy assemblage of individual talent.

Ranking: Maybe we're

actually underrating the Rebels?

NO. 7 NOTRE DAME

Opener: at No. 20 Texas A&M, Aug. 31.

Reality check: An inexperienced offensive line plus a new quarterback plus a new play-caller. That's a lot of new stuff that needs to work well for a team that's been penciled in as playoff-or-bust.

NO. 11 MISSOURI

Opener: vs. Murray State, Aug. 29.

Reality check: The Tigers look like a prime candidate for regression. Remember, an 11-win season that ended with a bowl victory against Ohio State started with three September victories by a total of 14 points against Middle Tennessee, Kansas State and Memphis.

Ranking: Too high.

NO. 12 UTAH

Opener: vs. Southern Utah, Aug. 29.

Reality check: Conventional wisdom suggests the return of QB Cam Rising and TE Brant Kuithe from knee injuries will have the Utes' offense humming again. After missing an entire season, that is probably not a given.

Ranking: About right.

NO. 13 LSU

Opener: vs. No. 23 USC in Las Vegas, Sept. 1.

Reality check: The Tigers are replacing a Heisman-winning quarterback, two receivers drafted in the first round and their coordinator. Even if the defense improves — and it better — that's a potentially huge dropoff on offense.

Ranking: Too low.

NO. 14 CLEMSON

Opener: vs. No. 1 Georgia in Atlanta, Aug. 31.

Reality check: Coach Dabo Swinney is banking on the second season of QB Cade Klubnik as a starter in coordinator Garrett Riley's scheme to finally fix an offense that has ranked 103rd, 72nd and 98th in yards per play the last three seasons. The Tigers don't just need a step forward, they need a quantum leap.

Ranking: Too high.

NO. 17 OKLAHOMA STATE

Opener: vs. South Dakota State, Aug. 31.

Reality check: Coming off a 10-win season with one of the most experienced rosters in the country, what could go wrong?

Plenty for a team that managed to reach the Big 12 title game with one of the worst defenses in the country.

Ranking: Too high.

NO. 18 KANSAS STATE

Opener: vs. UT Martin, Aug. 31.

Reality check: Another team preparing to unleash a second-year five-star quarterback, Avery Johnson. Transition elsewhere on offense and at coordinator could hold back a breakout performance by the Kansas native.

Ranking: Too low.

NO. 19 MIAMI

Opener: at Florida, Aug. 31.

Reality check: The Hurricanes could be this season's Texas. Third-year coach (Mario Cristobal), coming off two seasons of underwhelming results on the field but with a roster built for a breakout. Do Cristobal and his staff have the ability to bring it all together the way Steve

Ranking: Little high

Michigan's Moore looks forward to release of texts

BY LARRY LAGE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Michigan coach Sherrone Moore is taking over college football's winningest program and all the scrutiny that comes with it.

Moore spoke with reporters on Tuesday for the first time since the NCAA alleged in a notice relating to its sign-stealing investigation that he violated rules as an assistant under Jim Harbaugh, according to three people briefed on the correspondence between the governing body and the school.

Two people told The Associated Press that Moore has been accused of deleting text messages with Conor Stalions, the low-level recruiting staffer who coordinated an off-campus, advance-scouting operation. One of the people said the NCAA has recommended a less serious Level 2 violation for Moore, adding that the texts between Moore and Stalions were recovered and that the coach provided them to the NCAA.

All three people spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the notice was confidential.

"I'll just say this: I look forward to them being released," Moore said, facing more than 30 journalists and more than 10 cameras, when asked about the text messages.

Stalions resigned last year during the Wolverines' national-championship winning season.

Moore said he has and will continue to cooperate with the NCAA's investigation, declining further comment when asked for more details.

The NCAA had already

put Michigan on three years of probation along with a fine and recruiting limits after reaching a negotiated resolution in a recruiting case and banned Harbaugh from coaching college football for four years.

The Wolverines are ranked No. 9 in the pre-season AP poll and start the season Aug. 31 at home against Fresno State.

Harbaugh, now the coach of the NFL's Los Angeles Chargers, was invited to be an honorary captain for season-opening game many months ago, Moore said, but declined the offer on Monday to help the Chargers prepare for the season.

"It was really to honor him for what he's done for Michigan," Moore said. "He came back for nine years and took us to where we are right now."

Michigan is defending a national championship for the first time since 1997 with a new coach, quarterback, offensive line and defensive coaching staff — and a challenging schedule.

The Wolverines will host No. 4 Texas and No. 23 Southern California in September and No. 3 Oregon in November before closing the season on the road against rival and second-ranked Ohio State.

"They still got to play us," Moore said. "Our guys are excited about the schedule."

Moore served a one-game suspension during the 2023 season related to recruiting infractions and filled in as head coach for four games last year when Harbaugh was punished by the school and the Big Ten.

Powerful SEC says farewell to Saban, hello to Oklahoma, Texas

BY JOHN ZENOR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Goodbye, Nick Saban. Hello, Oklahoma and Texas.

For the first time in 17 years, Alabama's iconic coach won't be prowling the sidelines in the Southeastern Conference. With one longtime juggernaut headed to an ESPN gig and semi-retirement, two others enter the fray.

The Sooners and Longhorns join the powerhouse league three years after announcing their departure from the Big 12 and they will not have to face Saban, who won six of his major college record seven national championships with the Crimson Tide.

"I think it's a partnership of elite with elite," Oklahoma coach Brent Venables said. "And, again, two programs that in the history of college football take a back seat to nobody. The SEC doesn't take a back seat to anybody."

A league that had captured four straight national titles — including two straight from Georgia — before Michigan won it all last season is now beefed up to 16 teams.

For all that, some things haven't changed: Kirby Smart and top-ranked Georgia are loaded with talent and regarded as the team to beat. Steve Sarkisian and the Longhorns bring another current force into the mix with quarterback Quinn Ewers back after leading them to the College Football Playoff.

Kalen DeBoer takes over in Tuscaloosa after leading Washington to the national championship game. Saban is gone, but the talent at 'Bama isn't.

Mississippi and Missouri are also coming off 11-win seasons where both finished in the top 10. They return veteran quarterbacks — Ole Miss's Jaxson Dart and Missouri's Brady Cook — and enviable playmakers at wide receiver.

TOP PLAYERS TO WATCH

Carson Beck, QB, Georgia: Widely regarded as the Heisman Trophy front-runner going into the season, Beck led the SEC and ranked third nationally with 3,941 passing yards while completing 72.4% of his passes. Some of his top targets are gone, but the Bulldogs are loaded.

Luther Burden III, WR, Missouri: One of college football's top receivers.



Texas head football coach Steve Sarkisian flashes the "Hook 'Em Horns" sign after speaking at the Southeastern Conference college football media days on July 17 in Dallas.

Burden was a second-team Associated Press All-American after ranking in the top 10 nationally with 1,212 receiving yards, along with nine touchdowns and 86 catches.

Will Campbell, OL, LSU: The Tigers' tackle has started 26 games in his first two seasons and allowed only three sacks in 1,687 snaps — all in his freshman year. The 6-foot-6, 320-pounder anchors a line that was among three finalists for the Joe Moore Award.

Quinn Ewers, QB, Texas: Ewers gives the league another experienced, talented passer and a potential Heisman candidate. He has 22 starts under his belt with 5,656 passing yards and 37 passing touchdowns.

Jalen Milroe, QB, Alabama: A big-play threat running and passing, Milroe overcame a rocky start to emerge as one of the SEC's top QBs. He even wound up sixth in the Heisman Trophy voting.

James Pearce Jr., LB, Tennessee: Emerged as a pass rushing force last season despite starting only three games. The 6-foot-5, 243-pounder tied for the SEC lead with 10 sacks and his 14-1/2 tackles for loss ranked second.

Harold Perkins Jr., LB, LSU: The 2022 first-team All-SEC pick has 26 tackles for loss and 13 sacks in 27 career games.

Malaki Starks, DB, Georgia: A

star on the Bulldogs' loaded defense, Starks was a first-team AP All-American last season. He was also a finalist for two national awards.

NEW FACES

There's no more compelling new face in college football than DeBoer, who has a gaudy 104-12 record in nine seasons as a head coach at various levels.

Mike Elko takes over at Texas A&M after a stint at Duke. Former Oklahoma and Mississippi offensive coordinator Jeff Lebby is the new head man at Mississippi State.

New coordinators abound across the league, but none more intriguing than Bobby Petrino. He takes over Sam Pittman's offense at Arkansas, where he once reigned as head coach before getting fired in 2012 amid an off-field scandal.

GAMES TO WATCH

Aug. 31, Georgia vs. Clemson (Atlanta); Sep. 7, Texas at Michigan; Sep. 21, Tennessee at Oklahoma; Sep. 28, Georgia at Alabama; Oct. 12, Texas vs. Oklahoma (Dallas); Oct. 19, Georgia at Texas; Oct. 28, Missouri at Alabama; Nov. 9, Georgia at Ole Miss; Nov. 23, Alabama at Oklahoma; Nov. 30, Texas at Texas A&M; Auburn at Alabama, Florida at Florida State.

No. 10 Florida St. looking to win league, secure CFP bid

BY PETE IACOBELLI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mike Norvell and Florida State got a taste of the big time last season. The Seminoles are not about to let that slip away this fall.

"It sets the stage and opportunity for us to continue to push and continue to elevate this program to ultimately where it deserves to be," Norvell said after leading Florida State to its first Atlantic Coast Conference title in nine years last season. "That's among the nation's elite, when you look across the course of college football."

That wasn't everyone's opinion with the undefeated ACC champions getting snubbed by the College Football Playoff due in large part to an injury to starting quarterback Jordan Travis. The season ended with a 63-3 bashing by equally passed over Georgia in the Orange Bowl with the Seminoles hurting from injuries and opt-outs.

No matter, Norvell said. His 10th-ranked team, picked to defend its ACC title this season, wants to leave no doubt they belong with the game's very best.

"At the end of the day, a lot of people from the outside might have a perspective of who is great, who is the greatest," said the fifth-year coach. "For us, let's control the things that we can control. Let's go out there and be the best that we can be."

It won't be easy with the talent Florida State lost on offense, including Travis, receivers Keon Coleman and Johnny Davis, tight end Jaheim Bell and tailback Trey Benson.

But Norvell believes he's got plenty of skilled players, led by former Clemson quarterback D.J. Uiagalelei, who had plenty of big moments in three seasons with the Tigers and spent last year leading Oregon State. Offensive lineman Darius Washington has seen a humble, friendly Uiagalelei bond with teammates since arriving.

"He can still make an impact to everybody on the team just by the way he is," Washington said, "how he comes in every day and works with us."

IF NOT FLORIDA STATE, THEN ...

No. 14 Clemson, which won seven ACC titles in eight seasons between 2015-2022, was picked second behind the Seminoles. The Tigers, the favorites a year ago entering the season, were out of contention before November with a 4-4 record. Five straight wins to close the season has

Clemson thinking it can go after fresh championship goals.

No. 19 Miami, led by Washington State transfer Cam Ward, should be right behind in coach Mario Cristobal's third season. Ward is the preseason ACC player of the year after throwing for 6,963 yards and 48 touchdowns with the Cougars.

No. 24 North Carolina State, selected fourth in the preseason poll, comes off season where it went 9-4 and adds three-time Sun Belt player of the year in ex-Coastal Carolina quarterback Grayson McCall.

NEW TEAMS TO PLAY

The ACC, like the other Power Five leagues, are welcoming new members in former Pac-12 teams California and Stanford and ex-American Athletic Conference team SMU.

The additions give the ACC a super-sized 17 teams competing for spots in the league title game in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Cal and coach Justin Wilcox have a pair of long trips early, playing at Auburn on Sept. 7 and Florida State on Sept. 21 — a couple of round trips at some 9,900 miles combined.

"Well, I guess if you would have asked me two or three years ago, I probably wouldn't have thought of that," Wilcox said. "I'll tell you this, we're glad to be doing it. We're excited to play, to be in the ACC."

CONFERENCE OF QUARTERBACKS?

Several ACC teams got high-profile passers from some big programs. Maliik Murphy joined Duke after playing at Texas while Louisville added Tyler Slough, who was previously at Oregon and Texas Tech.

Add those to Washington State's Ward at Miami, Oregon State's Uiagalelei at Florida State and Coastal Carolina's McCall at North Carolina State and the league could have a strong showing at the game's most important position.

ONGOING LEGISLATION

The ACC will continue defending itself from disgruntled members Clemson and Florida State, which have both sued to end the league's grant-of-rights obligation that goes through 2036. The school must let the league know by Aug. 15 if they plan to leave before the 2025-26 season. Count on the off-the-field fight to garner attention as the Tigers and Seminoles contend for the

7 Ways to Improve Your 401k



Layin' it on the line

By Stephen Dybwad
Retirement Planning/
Wealth Management

In addition to the below tips, make sure you fully understand your asset allocation and the fees being charged. Many 401(k) plans have fees subtracted by the firm that invests and manages your account. If you are 59 1/2 and are still working at the same firm where your 401(k) is, you may roll the funds to a self-directed IRA without any tax exposure. This allows you to select an asset allocation that might be more timely especially as you get closer to retirement age.

If you have a 401(k) at a firm where you no longer work, it can be rolled to a self-directed IRA at any time. This tax-free transfer gives you many more options for investing.

1. Be Outspoken: As with all things, no one will know that you are unhappy unless you say something. While this may sound like an impossibly daunting task, tactfully voicing your complaints and concerns might make you realize that you are not the only one who has them. If other employees share your point of view, you will be able to make a stronger case when

you appeal to your employer.

2. Be Informed: If you aren't well-versed in all aspects of your current 401(k) plan, as well as the plan (or changes to your current plan) that you would like your employer to adopt, you will not be able to argue effectively for a change. If, for example, you are interested in adding a mutual fund, call the mutual fund company you would like to have your company work with and find out everything you can about all possible choices.

3. Be Involved: Your company may be considering 401(k) plan changes right now, and if so, this is the time to make your opinions known. The average company changes 401(k) plans more frequently than most employees realize, and those in charge are usually open to suggestions.

4. Be a People Person: Befriending the Benefits Director may be the way to see your changes implemented. While these people can seem aloof and intimidating, the chances are that they are just as aware of the flaws in the current 401(k) plan as you are. The difference is that they have greater decision making clout, and more influence when it comes to the choice of your company's retirement plan. If you can get him or her to see your side of things, you may be well on your way to seeing your changes implemented in the future.

5. Be Open to Help: If your attempt to sway the opinion of the Benefits Director didn't work out so well, consider seeking help from an employer-sponsored group, or a union-if applicable. These groups have experience in helping employees advocate change. You may even discover that someone from the benefits department is a member of one of these organizations, which should strongly help your case.

6. Be Willing to Strike Out on Your Own: If the above options fail to produce results, consider starting a grassroots movement of your own. It may sound trivial, but a petition with signatures of those employees who share your opinion that changes in the company 401(k) plan should be implemented makes an impression on the higher-ups. You will likely receive negative feedback, mostly from coworkers who don't want to be bothered, but you are also just as likely to find out that many of your coworkers are as ready for a change as you are.

7. Be Patient: Nothing happens in an instant—especially major change like the adoption of a new 401(k) plan. If you don't see the fruits of your labors immediately, keep persevering until you do. Remember: the 401(k) plan that you have today will significantly impact your financial future when it comes time to retire. 401(k) plans are designed for the benefit of employees, so make sure that yours delivers on its promise.

Stephen Dybwad, a long time Hoosier resident, is a member of *Syndicated Columnists*, a national organization committed to a fully transparent approach to money management. *Syndicated Columnists* is the sole provider of this material, both written and conceptual, for this column. All rights reserved.

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WNBA rookie stars Clark, Reese take advantage of Olympic break

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Caitlin Clark took full advantage of her snub by the U.S. Olympic team. She visited Mexico, attended a friend's wedding in Iowa, and even got to see the New York Yankees' clubhouse. So, when the Indiana Fever star returned to practice Tuesday, she was rested, revived and revved up to restart the WNBA season.

For Clark and the rest of this year's remarkable rookie class, the nearly monthlong Olympic break was a welcome and perhaps necessary respite before for the final sprint to the playoffs.

"Oh yeah, I think it was very helpful just to reset," Clark said. "Coming in here, I didn't know my teammates very well and you're just kind of tossed out on the court, trying to figure each other out. I think you can tell I'd gotten more comfortable over the last few games heading into the break, so I was kind of like 'Oh, I need the break.'"

Clark was hardly alone in her assessment.

In Chicago, coach Teresa Weatherspoon acknowledged her two rookie stars — Angel Reese of LSU and Kamilla Cardoso of South Carolina, both NCAA champions — came back re-energized after enduring an unprecedented whirlwind for almost a full year.

From the moment college practices opened last fall, these

rookies played under a white-hot glare rarely experienced in women's basketball — nightly sellout crowds, soaring ticket prices on secondary markets, record-breaking television ratings and their own incessant desire to live up to growing expectations.

"You talk about those two, especially coming from the college level, they just went year-round and the body needs a break," Weatherspoon said. "You want the body to have that break to remain productive."

With only eight days between the NCAA championship game and the WNBA draft and two more weeks before the start of training camp, the fast pace continued into their pro careers.

Fans debated what long-term impact these women could have on the sport while salaries, endorsement deals, chartered flights and, yes, even the Olympic selections continued to fuel interest in the sport.

In mid-May, the rookies began a 40-game regular season — one made all the more challenging by a modified schedule, compressed because of the long break.

"I think mentally we're all refreshed," said Reese, who went shopping in Paris during the layoff. "We needed that little break because we were playing back-to-backs, we were with each other on road trips for a really long time. I even tell my teammates I got lucky with this



AP photo/Noah K. Murray

WNBA basketball player Caitlin Clark, left, and Texas Rangers Josh Jung are photographed before a MLB doubleheader between the New York Yankees and Texas Rangers on Saturday in New York.

Olympic year, and they spoiled us because now I'm looking forward to it every year."

Don't bet on it. When the break comes again, in 2028, Clark and Reese could be forming the nucleus of the U.S. team in Los Angeles, while Cardoso hopes to represent Brazil.

But that doesn't discount how this trio benefited this time

around.

Cardoso, who missed the Sky's first six games with a shoulder injury, got some extra time to recuperate. Reese and her teammates also healed up.

Clark, meanwhile, used the non-practice time to bond with teammates. They held a "home run derby," competed on an Indianapolis ropes course and

braved some of the hottest temperatures of the summer to attend the Indiana State Fair.

Now, it's time to get back to basketball.

"Definitely need a game," Fever coach Christy Sides said after running a game between her players and the men who practice against them. "It's time to see some competition. Like, it's been a long time."

Indiana and Chicago begin their stretch runs holding the final two spots in the league's eight-team playoff bracket.

The Fever have 14 games left, starting at home against Phoenix and Seattle, teams that have four players who returned from their Olympic break with gold medals — Diana Taurasi, Brittney Griner, Kahleah Copper and Jewell Lloyd.

The Sky have 16 games left, beginning Thursday night at home against Phoenix and followed by a three-game trip to Los Angeles, Phoenix and Connecticut.

The race to the playoffs is what matters now.

"I've been ready to get going and play games for a while," Clark said. "I think we're all kind of ready. We're kind of beating up on each other, beating up on the boys and I think we want to get out there and feel like we're ready to play more games. I think this prep has been really good, but eventually you get to the point where it's like 'All right, let's go now.'"

US women's hoops still on top but the world is closing talent gap

BY DOUG FEINBERG
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

PARIS — U.S. women's basketball players have been saying for years that winning in the Olympics isn't easy and France showed at the Paris Games that their comments are more than just rhetoric to keep fans interested.

The rest of the world is catching up to the U.S., though Olympic gold should continue to run through America.

The future for USA Basketball looks bright with A'ja Wilson and Breanna Stewart in their prime. Then there also is a extremely talented young group of play-

ers who say they want to be in the pipeline, led by Caitlin Clark, Angel Reese, Paige Bueckers and Juju Watkins.

They could help anchor the national team, which is in a bit of a transition with the retirement of Diana Taurasi, who finished her career with a record six gold medals.

The Americans captured their record eighth Olympic gold medal Sunday by the narrowest of margins with a 67-66 victory over France. The U.S. won its six games in the tournament by an average of 15.7 points — the lowest during its streak.

"The parity of women's basketball is just only continuing to grow," Stewart said. "So I think, you know, we know it's not easy."

France became the first team to come within a hair of beating the U.S. in the Olympics during its record

61-game winning streak that dates back to the 1992 Barcelona Games. Only two other teams had come within single digits of the Americans in those 32 years.

"Maybe they won't say it's just easy and we walk in and just win gold," said U.S. center Brittney Griner, who broke down in tears when she was presented her third gold medal. "Maybe they'll stop saying that, because, like I said, we see everybody's best shot. And we saw the shot that France gave us."

The U.S. will get home-court during the 2028 Olympics, which will be held in Los Angeles. The Americans had played the last two gold medal games against teams from the host nation.

Griner said "we'll see" when asked if she'll be playing in the Los Angeles Games.

Even if she doesn't decide to play — she'll be 37 at that point — the U.S. should return its top two stars Stewart and Wilson, who are only 29 and 28 years old respectively.

The pair could potentially play in a few more Olympics. With the exception of Taurasi, no one on this year's Olympic team would be older than 37 by the time the 2028 Olympics happen.

"I think being able to learn from a lot of the veteran players here, knowing it's kind of my time and a lot of our times that, this younger generation is able to kind of take this legacy and continue to push forward and go for nine," said Sabrina Ionescu, who earned her first

Olympic gold medal. "This is a program that has always sort of made it look easy. But I always said it's not."

The major question potentially is who will be coaching the team in Los Angeles.

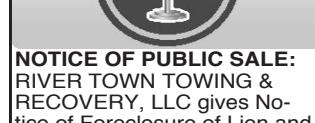
Cheryl Reeve could come back to coach the team, although it's extremely rare that a coach does a second stint. Only Geno Auriemma, who coached in 2012 and 2016, has done that.

If the U.S. goes another direction, there's a few potential candidates. Assistant Kara Lawson, who won gold as a player in 2008 and also guided the inaugural 3x3 U.S. team in 2021 to first place could be on the list. A trio of WNBA coaches have experience with USA Basketball: Curt Miller, Stephanie White and Tanisha

Wright also could be considered.

A dark horse could be Las Vegas Aces coach Becky Hammon. She hasn't been involved with USA Basketball at all yet and played for Russia in the 2008 Olympics. Yet no WNBA coach has been more successful the last few years than Hammon, who has led the Aces to back-to-back WNBA championships.

With the Aces' core of Wilson, Kelsey Plum, Chelsea Gray and Jackie Young potentially back in 2028, Hammon would certainly have their endorsement.



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STATE OF INDIANA
IN THE JEFFERSON
CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO.
39C01-2408-
000050

IN THE MATTER
OF THE SUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION
OF THE ESTATE OF
MARGARET HELEN CLARK,
DECEASED.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF JEFFERSON
COUNTY, INDIANA
IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF MISTY DAWN
WILLIAMS, DECEASED,

ESTATE DOCKET NO.
39C01-2407-EU-000046.

Notice is hereby given that
Sherry Breeding Almanza, on
the 30th day of July, 2024,

was appointed Personal Repre-

sentative of the Estate of

Misty Dawn Williams, De-

ceased, who died on the day

of March 15, 2024. All per-

sons who have claims against

this estate, whether or not

now due, must file the claim

in the office of the Clerk of this

Court within three (3) months

from the date of the first pub-

lication of this notice, or within

one (1) year after the de-

cedent's death, whichever is

earlier, or the claims will be

forever barred. Dated at

Madison, Indiana, on

July 5, 2024, and is auth-

orized to administer the estate

without court supervision.

Yankees' Soto belts 3 home runs in win against White Sox

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — Juan Soto hit three home runs in a game for the first time in his career Tuesday night, connecting in three consecutive at-bats as the New York Yankees against the Chicago White Sox.

The 25-year-old Juan Soto has 23 career multi-homer games. The only player with more by age 25 was Hall of Fame slugger Mel Ott with 24.

"It locks me in every time I hit the ball that way," Soto said. "I feel like that's my strength right there. I feel really good about it."

The four-time All-Star added his 33rd homer of the season in the seventh off left-handed reliever Fraser Ellard, pulling a drive to right that made it 4-0.

With a chance to match the major league record of four home runs in a game, Soto walked his final time up in the ninth.

He smiled after swinging and missing at a 3-0 pitch that was a little out of the strike zone.

"I was ready," Soto said with a grin.

His big night at the plate powered the Yankees to a 4-1 victory that

moved them into first place in the AL East, a half-game ahead of Baltimore.

It was the 40th three-homer game in Yankees history, including the postseason. New York rookie

Ben Rice had one earlier this summer, on July 6 against Boston.

The 25-year-old Soto has 23 career multi-homer games. The only player with more by age 25 was Hall of Fame slugger Mel Ott with 24.

In his last 28 games, Soto is batting .351 with 12 home runs and a 1.233 OPS.

"I've been working on just trying to be accurate to the ball," he said. "Just be accurate with my barrel and see what happens."

PRACTICE

FROM PAGE B1

Blackmon said. "But he's got a lot of talent. That's just fun for our DBs to go all out against him."

But one thing has eluded Harrison on his journey to stardom — playing at Lucas Oil Stadium, the Colts' home field and site of the Big Ten football title game. He hopes that changes Saturday when the Cardinals and Colts are set to meet in their second preseason game.

Arizona quarterback Kyler Murray, who returned from a torn anterior cruciate ligament midway through last season,

won't play in any preseason games.

While it's unclear if Murray's absence may impact Harrison's playing status, the No. 4 overall pick in April's draft doesn't like taking snaps off — even in practice or the preseason — just like his dad.

"Definitely," he said when asked if it would mean something to him to play on the same field as his father.

This will be Harrison's third trip to Lucas Oil Stadium in 13 months.

He showed up in a blue suit with blue-and-white checkered shoes for the Big Ten media days in July 2023. He returned in March for the NFL's annual scouting combines.

And now that he's back, maybe even better than the Colts' career leader in receptions, yards receiving and touchdown catches.

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NASCAR revokes Dillon's playoff eligibility with win

BY DAN GELSTON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Austin Dillon's automatic spot in NASCAR's playoff was revoked — though he retained his victory at Richmond Raceway — after it was determined the driver "crossed a line" in his intentional last-lap wreck of drivers Joey Logano and Denny Hamlin.

Dillon won for the first time in nearly two years in the Cup Series on Sunday night, but the checkered flag seemed out of reach before he spun Logano out of the way and then sent Hamlin into the wall as well — all in the final few seconds.

Logano and Hamlin railed against Dillon's aggressiveness and the highlight-reel finish set off days of controversy in NASCAR.

NASCAR said Wednesday that Dillon committed "actions detrimental to stock car auto racing" in its decision to kick him out of a spot in the 16-driver field. There are three Cup Series races left before the field is set, starting Sunday at Michigan International Speedway.

Elton Sawyer, the senior vice president of competition, said NASCAR considered suspending Dillon for his actions. Dillon and the Richard Childress Racing No. 3 team also were docked 25 points in both the drivers' and owners' standings. Dillon dropped from 26th to 31st in the driver standings.

Dillon's spotter, Brandon Benesch, was suspended for three races for yelling "wreck him!" over the radio as the driver battled with Hamlin down the stretch.

"The No. 1 thing is we want to make sure is we're protecting the integrity of the playoffs as well as our championship when we get to Phoenix," Sawyer said.

RCR said it would appeal,

WR Aiyuk appears at 49ers practice as a spectator

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Star receiver Brandon Aiyuk was back out at San Francisco 49ers practice as a spectator as his contract hold in enters a fourth week still in search of a resolution.

Aiyuk had mostly stayed off the field the past two weeks after making waves with his boisterous handshakes with general manager John Lynch and coach Kyle Shanahan two weeks ago.

Aiyuk skipped the entire offseason program and hasn't practiced yet in training camp as he seeks either a long-term contract with San Francisco or a trade to a team that can agree with the receiver on a new deal and give the 49ers enough compensation to part with him.

Neither of those options has come to a resolution yet although an end may be getting closer with NFL Network reporting earlier this week that the Niners have a framework for a potential deal with Pittsburgh in place but are waiting to see if they can reach a deal with Aiyuk before making any trade.

Aiyuk came out to practice late in the session on Wednesday. He shook hands with Lynch and watched part of practice, chatting at times with teammates Deebo Samuel and George Kittle.

"I don't see him all the time, because I'm in camp mode. So being able to have a conversation with him is fantastic, to see how he's

stating on social media it was "very disappointed" in NASCAR's decision.

In NASCAR's view, Dillon's moves went beyond the hard-racing ethos that's been part of the Cup Series' DNA since its 1948 inception.

Logano also was fined \$50,000 for smoking his tires on pit road as he drove by Dillon and his team.

"It's ridiculous that that's the way we race. Unbelievable," Logano said Sunday. "I get bump and runs. I do that. I would expect it. But from four car lengths back, he was never going to make the corner. And then he wrecks the other car. He wrecks the 11 to go with it. What a piece of crap."

Dillon said he was trying to move Logano's car, but hitting Hamlin as well was more of an instant reaction.

"I've seen Denny and Joey make moves that have been running people up the track to win," Dillon said. "This was the first opportunity in two years for me to be able to get a win. ... I've seen a lot of stuff over the years in NASCAR where people move people, and it's just part of our sport."

It was his first win since Aug. 28, 2022, at Daytona. He had just two top-10 finishes this year. Dillon emerged from all the chaos with a victory in his No. 3 Chevrolet. That number was famously driven — often aggressively — by Dale Earnhardt.

"That's not the way we want our races to end," Sawyer said. "That's not the way we want to decide a champion. That's not the way we want to decide an event."

Sawyer apologized for the delay in ruling and said NASCAR would like to get to a point where there are more "on-the-spot" decisions when issuing punishments.

RCR said it would appeal,

doing and if everything is going the way that he wants it to go," Kittle said. "Just the chance to see him is always fantastic. I love the smile on his face."

Even Aiyuk's choice of wardrobe caught his teammates' attention as he wore a red 49ers shirt.

"Wearing red for the first time, too," Kittle said. "It's crazy."

Aiyuk had been set to play on the fifth-year option worth about \$14.1 million this season and wanted San Francisco to make him the latest receiver to cash in with a long-term deal. Ten receivers before Aiyuk had signed contracts worth at least \$70 million already this offseason with Justin Jefferson's four-year, \$140 million extension with Minnesota setting the top of the market.

Aiyuk had been a key part of San Francisco's offense last season as he formed a great connection with quarterback Brock Purdy. Aiyuk had 75 catches and a career-high 1,375 yards last season with seven touchdowns as he earned second-team All-Pro honors.

His absence would be hard to overcome if San Francisco has designs on getting back to the Super Bowl and winning it this upcoming season.

"The season hasn't started yet so we don't know how much we miss him yet," cornerbacks Charvarius Ward said. "I don't want to say nothing crazy but they'll figure it out, eventually for sure."

FRIDAY EVENING												
Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Ninja Warrior	Dateline NBC				WAV..
4 WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	Let-Make (N)	Lingo (N)	Blue Bloods	CBS4..		
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Ninja Warrior	Dateline NBC				News
8 WISH	12		News (N)	Inside..	ET (N)	Conners	Conners	Animals	Funny..	News (N)		News
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Cincin..	Jeopardy!	20/20 (N)				News
11 WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Jeopardy!	20/20 (N)				News
15 WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)	Comm..	Week	Legends Of The Canyon (10)	BBCN..			
19 WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Fri. Night SmackDown (N) (Live)	FOX19 (N)	FOX19			
32 WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	Let-Make (N)	Lingo (N)	Blue Bloods			News
34 WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	House..	Sheldon	BigBa..	Conners	Animals	Funny..	BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..
41 WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Fri. Night SmackDown (N) (Live)	News (N) (Live)				News
A&E	28	36	The First 48		The First 48		Streets (N)	Cold Case (N)	Tell (N)			First48
AMC	29	26	(5:45) ★★★ The Breakfast Club				★★★ Sixteen Candles ('84)					Pretty in Pink
COM	45	59	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	SouthP..
DISC	31	38	Gold Rush-Res.	Gold Rush-Res.	Gold Rush (N)	Bering Sea (N)	Deadliest Catch	Contra..				
DISN	25	29	Bluey	Big City	Big City	★★★ Toy Story 4 ('19)	Primos	Primos	Primos	Primos	Primos	
ESPN	32	44	(5:00) LLBWS	LLBWS	Game 12: Teams TBA		Professional Fighters League					
FREE	18	40	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	700Club
FX	40	28	Movie	★★★ Alien 3 ('92)	Sigourney Weaver		★★★ Alien Resurrection ('97)					Movie
HBO	201	17	Movie	(:40) Hard	(:35) ★★★ War for the Planet of the Apes		Industry					Nikki
MAX	270	73	(:20) ★★★ Friday the 13th ('80)				★★★ San Andreas ('15)					(:55) ★★ First Reformed
NEWSNTN	20	20	The Hill (N)	On Balance (N)			Cuomo (N)	Dan Abrams	Banfield (N)	Cuomo		
PARMT	35	41	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	★★★ The Town ('10)	Rebecca Hall, Ben Affleck.				Movie
PARSHO	221	16	★★★ The Lincoln Lawyer ('11)				★★★ One Life ('23)					Irena's Vow ('23)
TMC	233	74	(:15) ★★★ Along Came a Spider				★★ Black Christmas	(:35) ★★★ Fear ('96) (P)				Movie
TNT	27	43	(5:00) ★★ The Meg	(:15) ★★★ Jurassic Park ('93)	Sam Neill.		Rampage (N)					Movie
USA	26	33	(5:30) ★★★ 50 First Dates	(:5) ★★★ Just Go With It ('11)	Adam Sandler.		★★★ Marry Me ('22)					

SATURDAY EVENING												
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3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WildK..	Earth..	Weakest Link	Dateline NBC				WAV..
4 WTTV	4		CBS4..	BlueZo..	Football	Arizona Cardinals at Indianapolis Colts (N)	48 Hours					CBS4..
5 WLWT	2		News (N)	NBCN..	Let'sT..	Weakest Link	Dateline NBC					News
8 WISH	12		News	Inside..	FamFe..	FamFe..	Crime Nat "Where Is My Sister?"	News (N)				News
9 WCPO	23		World..	News	Ent. Tonight (N)	Will Trent	Will Trent	Will Trent				News
11 WHAS	11	4	Antiqu..	Antiqu..	TimFa..	RedGr..	Kentuc..	Kentucky Afield	★★★ Kinky Boots ('05)			
15 WKPC	13		Flat Track		Baseball	Cleveland Guardians at Milwaukee Brewers	FOX19 (N)	I Can ..				
19 WXIX	10		WLKY..	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	The Equalizer	48 Hours				News
32 WLKY	5	5	FamFe..	FamFe..	Football	Arizona Cardinals at Indianapolis Colts (N)		Crime Nation				
34 WBKI	7	7										
41 WDRB	8	9	9-1-1		Baseball	Los Angeles Dodgers at St. Louis Cardinals						News (N)
A&E	28	36	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage
AMC	29	26	(5:30) ★★★ Red 2 ('13)				★★★ Transformers ('07)	Shia LaBeouf.				Movie
COM	45	59	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	★★★ Daddy's Home 2 ('17)				Talladega Ni..
DISC	31	38	Expedition		Expedition		Expedition	Expedition	Expedition X			Expedi..
DISN	25	29	Big City	(:15) ★★★ Tangled ('10)			Descendants: Rise of R..	(:45) Kiff	(:10)			

Vikings rookie QB McCarthy to miss season after knee surgery

BY TOM WITHERS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEREA, Ohio — J.J. McCarthy's rookie year with the Minnesota Vikings is already over.

The former Michigan star quarterback and first-round NFL draft pick will miss the season after undergoing surgery to repair torn meniscus in his right knee, which he injured in his preseason debut last week.

McCarthy had the operation on Wednesday after suffering the injury at some point against Las Vegas. McCarthy had been having a solid training camp and was pushing starter Sam Darnold, who signed a one-year, \$10 million contract with Minnesota in March.

Vikings coach Kevin O'Connell delivered the news about McCarthy shortly after the team arrived for two days of joint practices with the Cleveland Browns.

McCarthy's loss was especially tough for a franchise looking for a fresh start after letting Kirk Cousins

ins go as a free agent.

While some may have doubted Minnesota's decision to take McCarthy with the 10th overall pick, the 21-year-old, who led the Michigan Wolverines to a national title last season, checked all the boxes over the past few months.

"I really believe that J.J. has kind of confirmed to me and a lot of our coaches and players that we got the right guy in the building for the future," O'Connell said. "And he did it in a short amount of time. That's what makes this news hard."

"Because you know just how exciting it would have been as a daily, minute-to-minute process moving forward. But I think that optimism should be felt by anybody in our building and hopefully our fans."

McCarthy went 11 of 17 for 188 yards with two touchdowns and one interception in the 24-23 win over the Raiders — a performance that may have led to him getting more reps with the starters.



AP photo/Bruce Kluckhohn

Minnesota Vikings quarterback J.J. McCarthy throws against the Las Vegas Raiders during a preseason game on Saturday in Minneapolis.

Following the game, he told the Vikings his knee was sore and imaging tests confirmed the meniscus tear. The Vikings initially hoped McCarthy would only miss a month while acknowledging they wouldn't know for certain until he had surgery.

"I'm the most crushed for J.J.," O'Connell said.

According to Sportradar, there have been 135 quarterbacks drafted

in the first round since 1967, and McCarthy will be just the eighth not to play as a rookie. The most recent to sit out his whole rookie year was Green Bay's Jordan Love in 2020.

With McCarthy no longer in the mix, Nick Mullens will be Minnesota's No. 2 quarterback. Jaren Hall is No. 3 on the depth chart.

The 29-year-old Mullens started three games for Minnesota last year, when the Vikings' season was derailed by an injury to Cousins and the team cycled through multiple backups.

"He's not just another capable guy in that quarterback room," O'Connell said. "He is providing context, experience and understanding of our offense on a daily basis. His experience last year was critical. The team is excited about Nick because like many of us we've gone through the ups and downs but he's in a position to really be a guy we can rely on and be a snap away."

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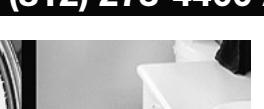


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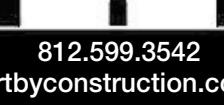
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